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# The Barry GEM



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Stock Clearance News on Page 13

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2013

**CHILDREN'S CHOICES, AND SCHOOL'S OUT INSPIRATION**  
Pages 20-21

**WINTER SERVICING**  
Pages 22-24 **KEEP YOUR CAR IN TIP TOP CONDITION!**

Don't forget to turn your clocks back this Sunday!  
Page 18

## Man was left 'traumatised' after assault outside town takeaway

**COURT TOLD**

A bar manager suffered a double fracture of the jaw and had to have a titanium plate inserted, after being attacked outside a Barry takeaway - writes AJ SICLUNA.

Callum George later said the incident traumatised him, caused him great pain and made him prone to panic attacks, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Louis Baker (22), a boatbuilder with no previous convictions, admitted

inflicting grievous bodily harm on Mr George.

Baker, of Ilminster, Close, Barry, was sentenced to 36 weeks' imprisonment, suspended for 12 months and made subject to an electronically-tagged curfew for 16 weeks between 8pm and 6am.

He was also ordered to pay £2,500 compensation to Mr George, £250 prosecution costs and a victim surcharge of £100. In addition, he is to carry out 150 hours unpaid work.

Judge Eleri Rees told him: "You are very lucky not to be standing there facing a charge of manslaughter." She said he inflicted very serious injury.

She added: "Let's hope it's the last time we'll see you."

Prosecutor Jason Howells said that on May 26, Mr George was socialising in Barry. He was not drunk. He went to a takeaway in Broad Street, and two people became involved in a confrontation.

Mr George went outside the premises and suddenly Baker came up from behind and struck him to the face. He immediately went to the ground.

At the time, he didn't go to hospital, but the following day was in great pain and could not move his jaw.

He was later found to have a double fracture and a titanium plate and pins had to be inserted.

Baker, when arrested, said he had tried to help a friend.

He admitted drinking and apologised.

(Continued on page 6)

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU ON TRANSITION DAY!



ABOVE: Local primary school pupils recently visited Bryn Hafren to take part in a transition day - see a full report on page 4.

## Happy 100th birthday, Peggy!

BARRY resident Mrs Morfydd Ison celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends at Hanover Court on Saturday, October 18.

Morfydd - better known as Peggy - welcomed family from as far away as California!

She has five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and one great, great grandchild!

Peggy (Wooloff) was born in Pencoed in 1913 and met husband Albert at the cinema when she was

17. She has been widowed for 15 years.

Her daughter Sonia told The GEM: "It was a wonderful celebration and lasted from 2pm until almost 7pm - not bad for a 100 year old!"

"There was a lovely surprise from the Mayor of Barry, Coun Claire Curtis, who brought her a beautiful bouquet - the family would like to thank Coun Curtis for attending the birthday."

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## WHO BENEFITS FROM BUS LOSS?

**H**AVING attended a meeting with regards to the X91 bus being taken off, I am not surprised at the reasons given.

The only ones to benefit from Rhooose's loss was the Assembly.

By cutting out the bus, people could not use their bus pass, thus saving the Assembly the cost of a fixed sum per pass to the bus company.

They in turn changed the bus route through Rhooose to Cardiff with 14 bus stops, to a route with only five bus stops.

When a public transport service is dependant on passengers to be a success, where is the logic?

It was hinted that we could lose our bus passes. I suppose that when we are fare-paying passengers, when one bus comes along, there will be two!

**G Trickett, Rhooose.**

## NO PROBLEM ON THE BUSES!

**I** WISH some people would take time to get their facts right in The GEM letters columns.

First someone said they were refused free bus travel before 9.30am on the grounds that the over-60s cannot travel free before then. Last week, it was why would over-60s want to travel before 9.30am?

If anyone took the time to check with Cardiff Bus, "there are no current restrictions

on when you can use a concessionary pass." - This is a direct quote from the shared services supervisor of Cardiff Bus).

We have travelled to Heath Hospital on the 95 bus quite a few times in the last year, all before 9.30am and have never been refused.

All this does is scare and worry elderly people who cannot access information on the internet, as I have done.

**M B Denton, Barry.**

## 'Use the bus or lose it...'

**H** EARTFELT thanks to the kind couple who took me out of their way when I flagged them down in Millbrook Road, after sprinting around Dinas Powys in pursuit of the 86 bus, which was running quite a few minutes early that day.

The bus arrived at the stop in the Square as the couple pulled away, so I would never have caught it without their help.

It's a fantastic and friendly service, running on Thursdays and Saturdays from Sully to Culverhouse Cross, giving a two-hour shopping/socialising slot (£4 return for us under-60s).

There is plenty of room for storing shopping. Very helpful driver.

Use it or lose it - just make sure you get to the bus stop early!

And thank you again to those generous strangers who made such a difference to my day.

**Kay Holder, Dinas Powys.**

## BUS SERVICES: 'contact your Assembly member'

**I** CAN'T see what Vale MP Alun Cairns hoped to achieve by having a second meeting to discuss public transport in the Vale.

Bus services, or the lack of them, are a matter for local councillors and the Welsh Assembly Government.

I have written to the Vale AM, Jane Hutt, with my concerns about cuts to bus services; she passed my comments to

transport minister Edwina Hart, who is already taking action and her staff have had a meeting with bus operators to review options and to evaluate the potential of reinstating services.

Ms Hutt has kept me fully informed on developments.

Mr Cairns can do nothing to help anyone who has problems with the bus services.

I urge people to speak to their local councillor, or contact their Welsh Assembly member.

It's the only way to get action on bus services and to be kept up-to-date with any developments.

**G Smith, Llantwit Major.**

## Readers' Letters

**IMPORTANT!** We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, DON JOHN, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

## 'Shale gas is a needed resource'

**W**ITH reference to the 'Fracking' letter in the October 10 issue, I find it extraordinary that as 'Spokesperson for Energy' for his political party, Llyr Gruffydd seems so easily misled about 'fracking'.

He joins so many others who campaign against shale gas development, but whose arguments are based upon anecdotal reports which are sometimes scientifically contradictory or, often, entirely false.

It's scaremongering to refer to tremors around Blackpool as if they were earthquakes and to the injection of certain additives as if they are at high volumes and life-threatening.

These, along with claims of potable water contamination, are alarmist exaggerations.

They reflect the unfounded hysteria that surrounds this extraction method - a procedure that has been regulated and safely used in oil and gas production for decades. Clearly there is a lack of rational and objective debate on this topic.

The UK's reliance upon imported gas increases yearly, at a huge cost to each of us, while we potentially sit upon a massive reserve of our own gas.

If the UK is to return to economic strength and have its citizens enjoy low-cost energy, we must encourage, not block, the exploitation of such a natural resource.

Renewable energy sources should be pursued but they are long-term prospects - while, in contrast, shale gas is the most commercial, most extensive

## Cost of chairs versus the cost of living

**R**EGARDING the story in last week's paper concerning the Vale Council's £250,000 revamp, are other readers aware that £52,850 has already been allocated for the purchase of 70 new chairs?

The council justifies

this expenditure by a requirement to meet with disability laws. Surely a more viable means of spending this money would have been to install another lift in the building, as a stair-lift is not conducive to wheelchair access?

Also, my understanding is that this is to be paid from out of the Capital Budget. At a time when we are facing cuts in services, and council tax increases, more and more people in Barry are finding it difficult to live.

At last night's PACT meeting, I was informed that shop-lifting is on the increase, and more disturbing was being told that this can be attributed to 'retired persons.' Why is it that our elderly, many of whom have never committed a crime, are suddenly reverting to shoplifting, while members of our council content themselves with sitting on chairs costing £755 each?

How can they justify buying a chair costing £755 when the people in this town they claim to represent, are struggling to survive?

**P Inch (nee Moore), Barry.**  
(More Letters on page 21)

and most immediately available energy resource we have.

The USA has turned around its energy position as a result of safely extracting shale gas. It now has a century's worth of gas already discovered and is well on its way to being energy self-sufficient, no longer at the mercy of foreign suppliers. The UK could go the same way.

My message to Mr Gruffydd and other campaigners is by all means argue for regulation and control of shale gas exploration and production, but don't spread misinformation about it.

**L T Greenwood, Cowbridge.**

## 'Who is responsible for wasting money?'

**R**ECENTLY it has been revealed that a revamp/refit of the Vale Council Chambers has cost the taxpayer about a quarter of a million pounds.

Sixty new chairs, costing between £569 and £786 each, is scandalous in these times of economic austerity. Who is responsible for this ridiculous waste of public money?

Another example of total neglect of scrutiny over wasteful spending of taxpayers' money is the saga of the wasting of money on the temporary car park at Nells Point Barry Island, which last year alone cost £500,000, and this year they spent a further £360,000 on it.

They installed temporary portable toilets adjacent to the severely neglected and run-down public convenience block which is a listed building.

These portable toilets cost the taxpayer £700 per week, and they did not even have hand washing facilities.

## Question of priorities

**J**UST where are the priorities? I made a rare visit to my doctor yesterday, and he diagnosed a problem that needed an X-ray.

He gave me the number of the local Barry Community Hospital and told me to ring them and make an appointment. I did that, and was informed that I would have to go to Cardiff as their X-ray machine had been broken

since July, and they could not afford to have it mended.

I note that the council have just paid £52 + for 70 chairs for their Chambers which are not used on a regular basis.

Surely the funding for that would have been better spent on the Health Service to repair the X-Ray machine that more people would have benefited from.

**A disgruntled pensioner (Name and address supplied).**

## Property prices: who is to blame?

**W**ITH reference to the GEM letter on October 10 headed 'House prices are to blame', I agree with Mr David Rosser.

Can any GEM readers tell me who actually starts the ball rolling to set off a property panic, where prices practically double overnight with a little gazingump.

Banks, estate agents, solicitors, etc all benefit from a property panic - but then, of course, comes the crash which we have still not recovered from.

**M Westcott, Dinas Powys.**

## 'What is the point of consultation?'

**C**OUN Burnett throws a little more light on why the council's regeneration bid was turned down, 'Trust is the way to work for the good of the Vale', The GEM, October 10.

It also reveals a contradiction between the Welsh Government's key principles of community engagement for the LDP and the Minister "shifting his regeneration focus to address the huge housing pressures".

When the Barry community was consulted, it gave a clear message of too much housing destined for Barry, inadequate infrastructure and the loss of amenities and facilities in the town.

The loss of the five Conservative seats in Barry also spoke volumes about the unsustainable housing proposals.

On the face of it we have the Welsh Government telling the council to listen to the Barry public, and when they do, they are apparently told by the Minister that the development of houses in Barry must be given greater importance.

What is the point of engaging the community unless someone is willing to listen and act?

**Dennis Harkus, FocusBARRY Member.**

## Farewell to Postman Pat

**F**IRST of all, I would like to apologise for being a pensioner and living too long - and as we say goodbye to Postman Pat, another British company is sold out for short-term profit and long-term unemployment.

Is it only the old who long for a Britain-past, before the very nature of society was changed to grab and greed by Thatcherite policies that sold everything off, started the mass immi-

gration for cheaper labour for the CBI, and destroyed the livelihood of working class people?

Great Britain was the greatest country in the world and stood out for truth, integrity and morality - principles which, sadly, do not exist today.

The only thing 'great' in Britain today is mass unemployment and the great arrogance of a Government whose only concern is profit, and which does not govern for the people, only for the rich - under the guise of the word 'Economy'.

**Colin Dudley, Barry.**

## HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL OCTOBER 31)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
24 Thur	10.08	9.0	22.27	8.6
25 Fri	10.41	8.4	23.06	8.1
26 Sat	11.23	8.0	23.55	7.6
27 Sun	11.18	7.5		
28 Mon	00.07	7.3	12.47	7.5
29 Tues	01.39	7.4	14.09	7.6
30 Wed	02.45	7.8	15.09	8.2
31 Thur	03.43	8.3	15.59	8.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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# HELP FOR HEROES TEAM ARRIVES AT FONTYGARY



ABOVE:  
Joe McCann, back home in the Vale.



IMAGES by JENNIE FLANAGAN

Wellwishers at Fontygary as the team arrived at the finishing line.



'WE MADE IT!' The saddle-sore lads are able to relax after completing 245km in four days.

FONTYGARY Leisure Park in Rhosowel welcomed the RAF 'Help for Heroes' bike ride team on Saturday, October 19.

One of the members of the group was Joe McCann from Barry, who was thrilled at the warm welcome the team received in the Vale.

The four Servicemen – Joe, Mark Bewick, Jamie Turnball, and Steve Hillbeck – had ridden from Brize Norton in Oxfordshire, as part

## REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

of a £20,000 fundraising drive for the Forces' cause.

It was a four-day trip, but as Joe explained, it got off to a testing start: "On day one, from the very start, for 20 odd miles, it was just horrific rain and we could not see more than 10 yards in front of us.

"We stopped at Coln House School in Fairford, Oxfordshire. They were very welcoming and the kids asked us lots of questions and made lunch for the riders and the support team.

"We stayed that night in Tetbury, where we raised around £400 thanks to the town's generosity. "The next day was the toughest of the lot, climbing continuous hills over a 56-mile leg.

"At times, we felt like jumping off our bikes, but we didn't. We thought of the charity and what we're doing this for, so we stuck it out, crossing over the old Seven bridge."

The team spent the

second night in Caldicot. The next day was a very emotional one for Joe.

He said: "Our third day was more enjoyable, and more manageable, riding the A48 pretty much all the way into Cardiff, where we stayed at Maindy Barracks for our final night.

"We visited Cardiff Castle and Cardiff RFC, where my dad played back in the Seventies alongside the greats of rugby Barry John and Gareth Edwards.

"We took a photo next to a team picture with my dad in. Unfortunately, he was not here to witness the ride because we lost him to cancer some five years ago now.

"That moment in the Arms Park was good for me.

"Day 4 was a nice ride through the city centre, Cardiff Bay, Dinas Powys, Barry and, finally, Rhosowel.

"At Fontygary Park, we had a big crowd of people – including our wives, partners, children, family, friends and

locals from the area.

"We finished on Saturday with a black tie charity dinner for H4H at the Vale Hotel with 98 guests attending.

"The evening was a complete success, raising over £1,750 on the night alone. We're at roughly £7,500 now – so climbing nicely to our target!"

Joe stressed that the team couldn't

have made it without its supporters.

"We want to thank our support team Mikey Hunter and Charlie New – without these guys we would not have completed this ride.

"A big thanks also goes to all our families for getting behind the venture."

To make donations, go to: [virginmoneygiving.com/joemccann](http://virginmoneygiving.com/joemccann)

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For 1 Vegetable samosa, vegetable tikka masala, Bombay aloo, boiled rice, plain raita. £9.80  
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Lamb cooked with vegetables in a thick spicy tomato sauce  
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Chicken cooked with mix pickle in a thick sauce  
41. Murgli Masala £5.90  
Chicken cooked with mirror masala in a thick rich sauce

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15. Spicy Chicken Tikka (Scorier) £2.90  
27. Spicy Chicken Tikka £5.90  
Special Biryani £7.50  
33. Papadam Special Biryani £7.50  
44. Paneer Paratha £5.00  
67. Papadam Special Korma £5.90  
68. Shagrona Bhuna £6.20  
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# Local mum Nicola receives a learner of the year award



Nicola Sanigar with her Employability Steps to Employment Learner of the Year award.

## Do you remember your first day at senior school?

**BARRY** U3A enjoyed an interesting and amusing talk by Alun Cairns on the life of an MP, recalling his trepidation on arrival on his first day in 2010 when the police on duty were primed to greet every new MP by name, finding his way around the corridors of power and learning all the procedures of the House.

He recalled making his maiden speech and Prime Minister's Question Time, when the Speaker called him to ask

a question of the Prime Minister and his mind went a complete blank!

The next monthly meeting will be held on November 4 at the New Jerusalem Hall (opposite Barry Library) at 2pm. The speaker is Dave Salter 'A Walk around Town - the changing Face of Cardiff.'

By happy coincidence, the walking group on November 29 is walking round 'Historic Cardiff.'

Everyone over the age of 50 is welcome to come to meetings or join the groups. For further information call John on 01446 413328 or visit the website [u3asites.org.uk/barry](http://u3asites.org.uk/barry).

VAL WARLOW

**A MUM-of-four from Barry, who left school at 15 and dreams one day of owning her own children's nursery, has won a prestigious national award.**

Nicola Sanigar (35) was named the Employability Steps to Employment Learner of the Year at the Apprenticeship Awards Cymru 2013, organised jointly by the Welsh Government and the National Training Federation for Wales (NTFW). The high profile awards ceremony was held at the Celtic Manor Resort, Newport.

"I am totally shocked," said Nicola.

"This award means the world to me. My children will be so proud. I am currently doing a level three qualification and I plan to keep on going until one day I own my own nursery."

The awards recognise the outstanding achievements of learners, employers and providers involved in the delivery of quality apprenticeships and other work-based learning programmes across Wales.

Nicola, who left school without any qualifications, has passed her childcare qualifications and secured a job at a

nursery. She had not been in paid employment before and her only experience had been raising her own children, aged nine to 17.

She said: "I really wanted a job and I knew I wanted to work with children."

"I started by volunteering at a playgroup run by a friend and really enjoyed it, but I knew that I needed to get some qualifications before I could secure paid work."

Her local Job Centre encouraged her to contact TSW Training and she joined its Steps to Employment course, working towards Children's Care Learning and Development Level 2.

There was a setback half-way through her training, when the nursery she volunteered at closed, but she didn't let it stop her, she completed the course and found herself a job at Daisy Day Nursery.

She is now working towards Children's Care Learning and Development Level 3.

"I've worked very hard to develop myself and provide a better life for my children. I'm so much more confident now and I have a job I really enjoy," she said.

## 'End tribal politics and cooperate for good of the town'

**I WAS** rather surprised to see a letter from the former Tory Leader of the Vale Council, Gordon Kemp, concerning the recent debate on Labour's failure to deliver £15m worth of regeneration money for Barry.

A motion may have been that all that happened in Mr Kemp's eyes, but it was important that the matter was discussed and perhaps it is also worth mentioning that none of his Conservative group voted on what was proposed - is that because none of them represent Barry?

Perhaps Mr Kemp may also like to ask his Conservative group why wasn't something similar proposed from them?

It is a sad state of affairs that we have to

go chasing such regeneration money, but this is because we have been let down by both Labour and the Conservatives who have had no past positive vision for Barry.

As far as who calls for the debate, does that really matter, so long as it happens?

As an Independent, I am prepared to work with anyone to improve my town; but we have to remember that the opposition members were not included in the Barry Regeneration discussions under either the Tories or Labour.

I think it is time to stop this party-politics nonsense and get things done together, for the good of the town.

For far too long we have been let down by this tribalist approach, and it is now time for a change!

**Coun Richard Bertin, (Independent, Vale Council)**

**Did you know you can read your GEM online?**  
[barry-today.co.uk](http://barry-today.co.uk)



Victoria's Music Box will play hits from the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

## Local band's charity gig at the Murchfield centre

**MURCHFIELD Community Centre in Dinas Powys is holding its first-ever live band charity event on Saturday, October 26 at 8pm.**

Victoria's Music Box will play pop hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s to raise funds for Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern. There will be a licensed bar and raffle.

Lead singer Vicky has been in the music entertainment business for many years as a singer, songwriter, guitarist and recording artist. She has also appeared in the touring production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. The other band members have, between them, a wealth of musical experience which includes

teaching, performing and writing music, including composing for film.

A spokeswoman said: "Last year, the community centre was refurbished and repainted. It is used by a number of community groups throughout the week as well as being home to the community cinema. It is hoped this will be the first of many live music events to be held there."

"The next event organised by the Murchfield Community Association will be a St Andrew's Night whisky tasting on November 30 (ticket only event)."

Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern (DPVC) provides a service to individuals, groups and to the many voluntary organisations operating in the village.

In particular, it aims to help, support and improve the quality of life of the elderly and people who have a mobility issue. DPVC assists individuals when they experience unforeseen difficulties by visiting them and finding appropriate sources of help.

Tickets for Victoria's Music Box, priced at £5 each, are available from DPVC office at the rear of the hall, the Parish Hall, Britway Road; call 07765513424, or email [judith@philharmonic.me.uk](mailto:judith@philharmonic.me.uk).

## Art exhibition

**ART Central gallery, in Barry town centre, is hosting an exhibition of distinctive, large scale oil paintings by Merthyr Tydfil-based artist**

**Gustavus Payne, called 'The Cause and Effect Hypothesis' and explores the power and control dynamic of contemporary society.**

The artist occasionally draws on personal experiences to inform his work and alongside this, he explores contemporary events and cultural norms, folk-lore, mythology and tradition; making this exhibition a great mix of ideologies and thought-provoking narratives.

The artist questions how "our increasingly global society treats its children; its neighbours; its vulnerable; those designated as "others"; the planet? What relevance is the past? And what of the future?"

Payne is a newly accepted member of the Welsh Group; a collective of 40 artists giving voice to the visual arts in Wales.

The exhibition closes on November 16 (10am-4pm, Tuesdays to Saturday).

## A CHARITY'S CAMPAIGN BEARS FRUIT

**A CHARITY** founded in Cowbridge had good news in the recent budget announced by the Welsh Government.

Prostate Cymru is celebrating once more, after the announcement in last week's Draft Budget that the Welsh Government will be funding an extra Da Vinci Robotic Surgical System to treat prostate cancer for south-west Wales and north Wales.

This is in addition to the funding announced in the summer for a Da Vinci Robotic surgical system in south Wales.

It is something that the Cowbridge-based charity has been extremely vocal in bringing to the public's attention, including a petition presented to the

Assembly that featured over 2,000 signatures, representing every Welsh Assembly constituency.

At the time the charity started its campaign, there were more than 30 such machines in England - and none in Wales.

Spokeswoman Angharad Jones told *The GEM*: "Prostate Cymru will still fundraise in this area in order to provide bursaries to doctors and nurses to train on these new machines."

"Again, this event has added poignancy considering the sad passing of our founder and chairman, Ray Murray, earlier this year, who worked so tirelessly to fight for a fair deal for Welshmen."

## NEWS FROM BRYN HAFREN SCHOOL

### Students' fayre in aid of two charities

**BRYN HAFREN** school will be running its annual **W e l s h Baccalaureate fayre** on **October 24**, managed by Mrs Farbrace and run by year-10 pupils to sell products for the **British Heart Foundation** and **Mount Olive Outreach Africa (drop-in centres for needy children)**.

Stalls include nail art, face painting and photos. Bro Radio will be broadcasting live from Bryn Hafren and doing shout-outs for pupils. These will cost 20p each and all money raised will go towards the two charities.

Six lucky pupils between years 10 and 13 will win a day in the life of a broadcaster with Bro Radio.

**Shona Evans and Shanjidah Ahmed (Year 9).**  
**Transition Day**  
**ON October 10, year-6 pupils from primary**

schools in Barry and Rhose visited Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School to find out what they will do if they attend there.

The pupils participated in lots of fun activities while learning something new.

In the maths department the pupils were having fun playing games in the gym using maths. In the drama department the pupils experienced a typical drama lesson on Greek Theatre; others got their aprons on and made some cakes with Food Technology.

In the history department the pupils experienced a practical history lesson and made their very own hieroglyphic bookmarks and had a competition to decide who made the best mummy! In the design technology department the pupils made a purse to hold the pocket mirrors they made, while the geography department did a practical fun lesson.

**Kiri And Sasha (Year-9 pupils).**



**Beagles Country Store** invite you to join us for our store preview during **the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival** this Weekend 26-27th October.

As well as being the exclusive and only outlet in Wales for the Really Wild Clothing Company and Holland Cooper we also carry a wide range of luxury clothes, gifts and homeware from the Avoca Woollen Mill and Country Candles.

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# 'LOLLIPOP LADY' IS THANKED

**THE Vale Council has congratulated Rhosie 'Lollipop Lady' Karin Williams who suffered serious injury after blocking the path of an out-of-control car to protect a group of children at her crossing, on being honoured with a Pride of Britain award.**

She was handed the award for outstanding bravery at the Pride of Britain Awards in London, which heard that in June, Karin, on school crossing patrol for more than ten years at Rhws Primary, was one of the victims of a freak accident when a driver lost control of his car, just before 9am.

The crossing outside the school was at its busiest when the car came towards Karin and a group of children and parents at the crossing. Witnesses said she instinctively went to protect the youngsters, throwing herself in the

way of the car, taking the full impact of the blow.

Karin was pinned underneath the car which had flipped onto its roof. She suffered serious injuries fracturing both knee caps and arms, she also broke a shoulder and her two legs, which meant she spent the next nine weeks in hospital.

Four months on from the accident, Karin is recovering at home while undergoing physiotherapy to help with mobility.

Council Leader Neil Moore said: "Karin is beyond doubt, an extremely worthy winner of the Pride of Britain award for outstanding bravery and I would like to extend my warmest congratulations.

"I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Karin - her instinct to protect those children by shielding them from the car, without any thought for her own safety - is something we will be forever grateful for."

## Ramble to Llantwit...

**KEEN walker William recently set off at 5am, complete with head torch, to walk from the west end of Barry to Llantwit Major - and after a hearty breakfast in a local café - joined five other Penarth and District Ramblers, including leader Barbara, at Llantwit bus station.**

Crossing the rugby fields and a path behind the schools and cemetery, they followed the stream

to Boverton, passing Boverton Place, built around 1587 and owned by the Seys family for almost 200 years.

Passing Tre-Beferaid they learned it had been built to house south Wales' miners and their families, because of the beneficial effect the sea air would have on the miners' chest complaints.

This project was one of the last that King Edward VIII completed, as he abdicated one week later!

Reaching the coast at Summerhouse Point, the group visited the octagonal-shaped summerhouse built by the Seys family, before making their way to the Seawatch Centre situated in the old Coastguard Station, which (luckily for them) was open, so they enjoyed an impromptu tour of the building and the varied fossil collection, which was enjoyable.

After coffee, they headed west along the coast path, which combined easy walking with splendid views. Taking care on the muddy cliff path, they descended to enjoy an ice cream, followed by lunch on Llantwit Major beach.

Climbing the new steps, and continuing along the cliff, they turned inland before reaching Tresilian Bay to join Church Lane, an old track where the cobbles, which were slippery underfoot, are still visible in places.

Reaching the Gatehouse, they dropped downhill to St Illtud's Church, named after the 5th century saint who founded a monastery that became a major centre for learning and Christianity. They noted that work on the chapel to house the collection of ancient stones is still progressing, before tramping back through the centre of Llantwit Major to their start.

On October 26, meet at 9am on the Barry Waterfront for a six-mile moderate walk, taking in the River Ogmore, Castle and coastline; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On October 27, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 6.5-mile easy/moderate walk at Cwm Cayo followed by a visit to Usk Castle; contact Joy on 01446 737131, Pam on 029 2025 5102. JS

## Commemorative plaque marks 50th anniversary of Penarth Docks closure - and the rebirth



ABOVE: Coun Neil Thomas, Penarth Town Mayor; Coun Margaret Wilkinson, Vale of Glamorgan Mayor; and Geoff Ogden, chairman of ICE Wales Cymru, are pictured at the unveiling of the plaque.

## MEMBERS RAISE FUNDS FOR SPECIAL SCHOOL

**AT Dinas Powys WI's monthly meeting in the Lee Hall, apologies were given for the lack of heating, due to repair works to the central heating pipework.**

Members were reminded of the charity coffee morning in aid of Erw Delyn, a special school for pupils with physical and learning disabilities.

The event was very well attended and over £200 was raised towards buying specialist equipment for the school.

Members were thanked for the very high standard of decorated cupcakes and tray bakes contributed for the WI coffee morning and table top sale at the Murchfield Hall on September 21, which raised funds for a WI bursary to Denman College.

Members of the home craft group, who meet once a month on a Thursday afternoon, were advised that October's class would be a workshop in card making.

The gardening club will resume next March, when they will be invited to plan which flowers and vegetables they want to grow at the Nightingale Community Garden.

Other events supported by the WI included the DPVC quiz night on October 4, which raised funds for this excellent community service.

The speaker was Merry Metcalf on 'Dispelling the Myths of Witchcraft'.

November 5, at 7.30pm. Mike Wilcock will be talking about his airship flight over Cardiff.

Non-members who are considering joining the WI are always warmly welcomed at WI meetings and may attend three WI events before making a commitment to join. MM

**THE Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) Wales Cymru has commemorated the importance of Penarth Docks by presenting a plaque to the Vale.**

The plaque was presented on Monday by the chairman of ICE Wales Cymru, Geoff Ogden, to the Mayor of the Vale Coun Margaret Wilkinson, to mark the 50th anniversary of the closure of Penarth Dock and its later redevelopment.

Mr Ogden, said: "Today, we are marking the 50th anniversary of the closure of the docks and celebrating the many famous engineers involved with its history, including several presidents of the institution - Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Robert Stephenson, Sir John Hawkshaw and Harrison

Hayter. This is not the first time that the institution has marked the history associated with Penarth Dock.

"We were at the Barrage end in 2009 to mark a significant Brunel anniversary and the last voyage of his famous Great Britain."

He added: "The presentation of this plaque is particularly special for me as in 1993-4, I was involved in redevelopment of the docks, working on the project to encapsulate the landfill at Penarth Haven in advance of the Cardiff Barrage."

Coun Margaret Wilkinson, Mayor of the Vale commented: "It is wonderful to see the rich history of Penarth Docks honoured in this way and I'm sure the plaque will serve as a fitting tribute to this area for many years to come."

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2. Free Choice Cheese, tomato and 4 toppings of your choice	9.99	13.99	15.99
3. Hawaiian Mushroom, pineapple and ham (extra cheese)			
4. Vegetarian Mushroom, sweetcorn, onion, peppers and fresh tomato			
5. Vegetarian Hot Mushroom, fresh chilli, onion and peppers			
6. Mexican Spicy beef, spicy chicken, jalapeno and peppers (extra cheese)			
7. Pepperoni Passion Double pepperoni, double cheese			
8. Kebab Special Chicken and doner kebab, onion & peppers (extra cheese)			
9. Meat Feast Pepperoni, spicy beef, spicy chicken, meatballs & ham (extra cheese)			
10. Chicken Combo Chicken tikka, roast chicken, Chinese chicken & tandoori chicken			
11. Hot Shot Pepperoni, salami, jalapeno, onion, peppers & garlic butter			
12. American Hot Pepperoni, onion, spicy beef & fresh chilli (extra cheese)			
13. Tikka Tikka Onion, chicken, tikka, peppers, American spicy sausage & mushroom			
14. Romeo's Tandoori Mushroom, onion, tandoori chicken & peppers			
15. Seafood Tuna, prawns, anchovies, olives & onion (extra cheese)			
16. London Pizza BBQ sauce, pepperoni, spicy beef, onion & American spicy sausage			
17. Paris Pizza BBQ sauce, roast chicken, smoky bacon, onion & peppers			
18. Doner Pizza BBQ sauce & doner slices (extra cheese)			
19. Romeo Meatball Spicy sausage, onion, meatball, pepperoni & green peppers			
20. Chicken Special Spicy chicken, Chinese chicken, onion, fresh tomato & peppers			
21. Romeo Special Pepperoni, BBQ chicken, onion, mushroom & peppers (extra cheese)			

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## Barry Camera Club are edged out by rivals



The Alpine challenge.

**BARRY Camera Club held its annual competition against Cardiff Camera Club on October 18, at St Francis Millennium Centre.**

There were two categories – prints and projected digital images – where each club enters 10 of each, a total of 20 prints and 20 digital images to be judged.

The evening began with the prints being judged and at the end of this section, Cardiff were three points ahead. Everyone then took a break to enjoy a buffet supplied by Barry.

After the break, the digital images were judged and the score for this section was equal. Overall, at the end of

the evening, Cardiff were three points in the lead and so won the competition.

The judge for the evening was Gareth Martin AWP from Bridgend Camera Club. Gareth said all prints and images were of a high standard.

Barry Camera Club meets every Friday evening from 7.30pm to 9.30pm between September and May at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry, CF62 6NX.

New members are welcome to attend, with no obligation to join. Alternatively, for more information visit [www.barrycameraclub.co.uk](http://www.barrycameraclub.co.uk).

FRANK CLELAND

## SLEEPING BEAUTY... Pupils' glamorous scarecrow!



The finished project, with members of Eco-Club.

**CHILDREN in Gladstone Primary's Eco-Club have been busy over the last few weeks designing and making their scarecrow ready for the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival this weekend.**

Their design brief was to create a scarecrow as one of the characters from Sleeping Beauty and as the children were told their scarecrow would be positioned outside one of the town's hair salons, they decided to create

Sleeping Beauty herself.

After researching images on the internet they collectively agreed to make her 'glamorous and pink'. Using only recycled materials, the children used plastic bags, old newspapers and paper plates to build her body and face, they cut up bits of fabric for her hair and used old cardboard boxes as her bed.

The Eco-Club thoroughly enjoyed their latest project and hope Sleeping Beauty receives lots of votes at the Food Festival.



Making the scarecrow.

## Man attacked outside Barry takeaway

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

His counsel, Stephen Thomas, said Baker was genuinely ashamed. He had not actually gone inside the takeaway, and threw but one punch.

"He appreciates how serious it was. No weapon was used, there was no kicking and no premeditation.

"It was a thoughtless reaction, a mindless punch, for which he takes full responsibility. It was an aberration."

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# 'WHY I'M SUPPORTING THE CREDIT UNIONS TO HELP BATTLE POVERTY'

**O**PENING the new Cardiff and Vale Credit Union office on 21 Holton Road, Barry earlier this month, was a positive event during a difficult week, when I was also announcing a Draft Budget for Wales - subject to £1.7bn cuts by the UK Government.

One of the main priorities of the Welsh Government is to tackle poverty and hardship in our communities and this is reflected in the difficult decisions we have had to make with the Budget for 2014/15.

However, we have been clear that one of our priorities is to support an ethical and affordable alternative to the pay day lenders and money shops which are filling our high streets,

(including Holton Road in Barry) with short term loans on high interest rate terms.

The Credit Union offers low cost loans charged at a maximum interest rate of just 2 per cent per month.

Supporting the Cardiff and Vale Credit Union, with a £22,000 grant from the Welsh Government, is a commitment to support hard-pressed households and individuals, to help prevent a spiralling of debt that can lead to poverty and despair.

Backing our Credit Unions is an important part of our Tackling Poverty Action Plan. In June, Jeff Cuthbert AM, the Minister responsible for funding Credit Unions, announced an additional £2m for this financial year which has helped to support the new Service in Barry serving the whole county.

It is open from 9.30am - 2.30pm and is supported by the Vale Council, the CAB, Llamau, Atal y Fro, the Food Bank, Shelter, Communities First, the Gathering Place, Save the Children, VCVS and the Vale Volunteer Bureau.

Everyone can join, and we need to boost the Vale membership, which now stands at 1,000 adult members and 100 junior members. Cadroxton Primary School junior members were at the opening, telling me how they were going to save their pocket money through the Credit Union and learn about 'managing money' at a young age, as a result.

You can visit the shop in Holton Road or email [info@cardiffcu.com](mailto:info@cardiffcu.com) for more information on how to join the Credit Union.

Another example of how we are supporting

our communities, was highlighted last week, when we announced that we have achieved our goal of funding the employment of 500 Community Support Officers to work in our police services - making a huge difference to the lives and opportunities of young people, vulnerable families, and elderly people.

They offer an investment in 'preventative measures' which can help prevent crime with proactive community policing.

## CSOs are vital

I met the Community Support Officers funded by the Welsh Government at Barry Police Station and they told me how they are serving their communities with exemplary commitment to what they are doing and achieving.

All around the Vale you will be meeting the CSOs and see that they are a credit to our public services and a boost to the Police Force.

In the Draft Budget, I

announced that we would continue to support these CSO posts to sustain the important work they are carrying out in the community.

## 'Bedroom tax'

We know there is hardship in our communities, with rising fuel costs as the latest example of the pressures households are facing.

We are doing everything we can to mitigate the impact of rising costs and cuts, including the iniquitous 'bedroom tax' affecting around

37,000 households in Wales. Building more and smaller affordable homes is part of that challenge and further funding for social housing was announced in our Budget, which will benefit the Vale of Glamorgan, as will the new £50m Intermediate Care Fund which formed part of our Budget Agreement, benefiting health, social care and housing.

We can all play our part in tackling poverty and meeting need.

## Assembly Notes



by Vale AM  
**JANE HUTT**  
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

## Town Rotary Club prepares for Fireworks Fiesta

WITH Bonfire Night fast approaching, Barry Rotary Club, with support from the Vale Council, is pulling together the final plans for this year's Fireworks Fiesta at Barry Island.

It will take place on Tuesday November 5, with the display set to begin at 7:45pm. Entry is free, but please help to support the Barry Rotary Club by donating to the bucket collections on the night.

With a brand new car park open at Nell's Point, in addition to the existing Harbour car park, there'll be more parking available for visitors than ever before.

The new car park at Nell's Point has 800 spaces, including disabled parking bays for Blue Badge holders.

Parking is £2 in the two designated car parks at Nell's Point and the Harbour car park and visitors are encouraged to make use of these facilities as Civil Parking Enforcement Officers will be in operation on the night and issuing fines to those parked illegally.

For those not travelling by car, there are a number of public transport options available, including the local park and ride facility, bus and rail services, and also the Barry Tourist Railway's steam train service.

"With organisers expecting a high turn-out for this popular fireworks extravaganza, a number of roads around Barry Island will be temporarily closed to ensure the safety of pedestrians," a spokesperson warned..

## SILENT AUCTION FOR A BIG MATCH TREAT!

THE charity Arthritis Research UK is encouraging bids for a silent auction - to win two hospitality tickets for Cardiff City FC's home game against Manchester United on Sunday, November 24.

The hospitality prize, worth £400, will grant two fans entrance through to the VIP reception, a superb three-course meal with wine, half-time refreshments with waitress service and a post-match meet and greet by the captain of the game.

The charity's regional fundraising manager in Cardiff, Anna-Marie Jones, said: "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for football fans to soak up the full atmosphere that Cardiff City

Football Stadium always delivers, while contributing to a great cause. It's going to be a big game! "By bidding, not only will you be in with a chance of experiencing a fantastic event, but also helping us to make a real difference to people's lives. The bidding reserve is £400."

Make a silent bid

before Friday October 25 by emailing Anna-Marie Jones at [a.jones@arthritisresearchuk.org](mailto:a.jones@arthritisresearchuk.org) or fill out the form on the following link: <http://www.arthritisresearchuk.org/events/national-arthritis-week-2013/silent-bid-for-hospitality-tickets-for-cardiff-city-vs-manchester-united.aspx>

## Local MP joins the (Policy) Board

LOCAL MP Alun Cairns has been appointed to the Number 10 Policy Board by the Prime Minister and said he was "honoured and privileged to be able to play a part in contributing towards Government policy".

Mr Cairns added: "This is a great opportunity to develop policies that can reflect and support the needs of the Vale and the wider country. I am absolutely delighted.

"One of my specific areas is energy policy, something that is key to us here in the Vale."

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## VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

# 'TIME FOR A FAIR SETTLEMENT ON VALE FUNDING'

**T**HE Vale of Glamorgan has been short changed by the Welsh Government yet again in last week's announcement of its new funding settlement to Council areas in Wales.

The cut in funding from the Welsh Government will amount to 4.5% and is the 4th highest reduction in Wales.

I have raised on more than one occasion that the Vale already receives one of the poorest funding settlements in Wales – Cardiff Council receives £202 more per person than the Vale and Bridgend receives £226 extra per person. Rhondda Cynon Taf receives £409 extra per head.

If we had a fair share of the cake, we would receive at least an extra £25.6M a year if we were to receive the same level of funding as Cardiff.

I had hoped that highlighting these figures would strengthen the Vale Council's hand in its negotiations with the Welsh Government, but am sorry that they chose not to use the data: 80 per cent of Welsh Council funding comes from the Assembly Government and our levels of Council Tax levels are dependent on it.

Cardiff saw no increase in



Vale MP **ALUN CAIRNS** reports to GEM readers

council taxes last year. I have no doubt that their additional funding over ours will be part of the reason.

In fairness to Russell Goodway, he has at least been publicly championing the case for Cardiff in the media. It appears that the Vale hasn't taken any action.

I cannot help but express my disappointment on reading from a response to a written Assembly Question that the Minister from the Welsh Government stated on record that she had not "received any recent representations from the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the comparative level of funding it receives".

This cut is, therefore, on top of a low funding base. Cardiff is receiving a 2.9 per

cent reduction; Bridgend 2.8 per cent and Rhondda Cynon Taf 3.3 per cent. We are being hit hardest, whilst the Welsh Government are protecting other parts of Wales.

The costs on providing services in the Vale are no different to that in other parts of Wales and I will continue to highlight my concerns on behalf of residents, who will be worried about the impact that this shortfall is going to have on vital public services.

One example of this has been the dramatic decline in local public transport in the last few months. I have been overwhelmed by the number of residents who have contacted me and attended my public meetings on the lack of bus services following cuts by both the Welsh Government and the local council.

A fairer funding settlement may have been able to help these much needed services.

We all recognise that there needs to be efficiencies and changes in the way services are delivered, but it is wholly unacceptable that we are taking a larger cut than others in Wales.

My fair funding for the Vale campaign is still ongoing and I hope everyone will be prepared to support it. The situation has deteriorated over the years and we need to act now. Please sign up on my website [www.aluncairns.co.uk](http://www.aluncairns.co.uk).

## Skydivers overcome their fears to raise funds for the Amelia Trust

**ELEVEN** volunteers and supporters recently took part in a skydive over Swansea Airport – to raise funds for Amelia Trust Farm.

Their target was £2,000, but this could rise to over £2,400 when all pledges have been paid.

The group descended in tandem with experienced skydivers. The plane reached 13,000ft (around two miles), and after freefalling at 160mph, the parachutes were deployed, at around 6,000ft (almost a mile).

Exhilarating views were enjoyed over the Gower, at least by those who had their eyes open! Supporters on the ground were very impressed

and cheered loudly as the skydivers landed. Deacon Lorraine Brown, Director of Amelia Trust Farm was one of the participants, she said: "I can't express how frightened I was. It was a real challenge to overcome the fear, but knowing it supports the valuable work with young people made it so worthwhile."

### PACT meetings

PACT coffee and chat meeting will be held at Cottrell Park, St Nicholas on October 29 at 11am.

ST ATHAN PACT public meeting will be held at The Gathering Place on November 3 at 2pm.

PACT coffee and chat will be held at Ystradowen Community Hall on November 5 at 11am.

PACT coffee and chat will be held at The Barley Mow, Craig Penllyn, on November 6 at 11am.

CADOC PACT, Palmerston Community and Learning Centre, Barry, on November 13 at 6pm.

COURT PACT, Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry on November 14 at 6pm.

## Thumbs up for new needle-free vaccine

**PARENTS** and children in the Vale and Cardiff have given a thumbs-up to a new needle-free vaccine.

The Welsh initiative is encouraging parents to vaccinate children, aged two and three years old, against the flu.

Roxine Havard from Barry, explained why it was important for her to vaccinate her toddler Crwys: "The vaccine helps in protecting against future illness."

"It's about giving her the best possible start in life, in any way possible."

The spray was easy, no complaints on her part, a nice easy and quick job."

## TY HAFAN lottery winners

**THE** following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D797.

● £2,000: 139554.

● The rollover, which now stands at £9,000, was not won this week.

● £10: 884312, 836991, 677395, 865682, 905557, 373665, 760995, 719455, 365328, 346149, 982313, 967861, 667253, 827571, 423544, 914123, 992283, 649960, 792484, 802645.

● £5: 425509, 537021, 682464, 218636, 132386, 422323, 653244, 514248, 711008, 807367, 867003,

225887, 123207, 483324, 568433, 782782, 647894, 738708, 170075, 118637, 759876, 966492, 835833, 345715, 300224, 556197, 758023, 399053, 580424, 710283, 416097, 161577, 884909, 663530, 677310, 246186, 689088, 461853, 541871, 719738, 821170, 174884, 211220.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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## 'Wildlife at a crisis point' MEETING IS TOLD

**RESIDENTS** crowded into the Vale Council chamber recently to hear top environmentalists discuss the UK's first 'State of Nature' report that makes grim reading for those who value the countryside and wildlife.

Coun Rob Curtis, cabinet member for the environment and visible services, who organised the meeting, said: "This is a very important report that pulls no punches and lays out clearly the sad decline of nature across Wales and the UK."

"It is also a call to action for public bodies, including local councils, and the public themselves. We are the first council in Wales to publicly discuss the report and I was pleased to see such strong interest in the environment from Vale residents."

Dr Sean Christian, head of conservation for the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds), one

of the 25 UK conservation and research organisations that worked together to produce the report, told the audience: "Wildlife is at a crisis point in Wales."

He went on to give a list of worrying statistics – all native reptile and amphibian species in Wales are declining; 80 per cent of breeding waders such as curlew, lapwing and golden plover have been lost to Wales; 63 per cent of Welsh butterflies are declining, and a third of all widespread Welsh moths are declining severely.

Other speakers included Sarah Kessell, chief executive officer of the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, and the council's own ecologist, Erica Dixon, who spoke passionately about the importance of planning the protection of nature at the beginning of any land development project.

The State of Nature report can be read at [www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/science/stateofnature/index.aspx](http://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/science/stateofnature/index.aspx).

## Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, BCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've

done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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## CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

# SCHOOL JANITOR IS FOUND WITH INDECENT IMAGES

A SCHOOL janitor who was found in possession of many indecent photographs of children, has been jailed for 10 months at Cardiff Crown Court.

Lee Mills (31) from Barry, who had no previous convictions, admitted four specimen charges of making indecent photographs of children and being in possession of 199 indecent photographs.

Judge Daniel Williams said: "I've seen some of these images, and the most serious involved children who were babies, with adults."

Mills, said the judge, lied when he said he obtained no sexual gratification from the images.

The judge described his behaviour as "vile" and

said the children involved must have suffered unimaginable agony.

"Those people who view images of this type face imprisonment," he said.

Prosecutor John Warren said that on March 22, the police searched premises in Barry occupied by the defendant.

He told them he had been stupid, and on a computer and mobile phone, they discovered indecent images.

In a bedroom occupied by Mills, they also found underwear belonging to a child. Mr Warren said the images ranged from level one to level four. The most serious is level five.

There had also been internet searches on the computer of small naked boys and girls, as well as child grooming tips.

There were titles such as 'how to become a paedophile' and 'child chatrooms'.

Mills told the police: "I have no idea why I did it. I don't know what I was thinking about."

He said he was not sexually interested in children in any way.

The police discovered that he had been in contact with a person who sent indecent messages in relation to a girl aged eight.

Mills had replied: "Nice. Talk to you soon."

There was also a reference to a boy aged two.

Mills' counsel, Kevin Seal, said: "As a result of this, he has lost his job. Fortunately, none of the images were distributed."

Mills, he said, had difficulties arising out of his childhood and adolescence and pointed out that he did not instigate the chat log.

Mr Seal described him as an inadequate individual. Mills was ordered to register as a sex offender for 10 years after his release, and a 10-year sexual offences prevention order was imposed.

## CANNABIS WORTH £15,750 FOUND AT BARRY ADDRESS

CANNABIS plants with a street value of up to £15,750 were found when police searched an address in Barry.

At the time, the man growing the plants, Craig Smeaton (41) was house-sitting, the court heard.

Smeaton, of Plymouthwood Close, Ely, Cardiff, admitted producing cannabis and possessing cannabis.

He was sentenced to a six-month community order and ordered to observe an eight-week curfew from 10pm to 6am.

Judge Daniel Williams said

Smeaton, who was also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £60, intended to use the cannabis to relieve chronic pain.

Prosecutor David Pugh said that on May 15, police went to an address in Bendrick Road, Barry, because people had reported smelling cannabis.

They went inside and found an amount of cannabis skunk worth £250.

In a bedroom were three growing tents with lights containing 15 plants.

Smeaton told them: "It's for personal use, I've had two hip replacements."

All the plants, said Mr Pugh, were in healthy condition. He said he had been given them and had bought the equipment for £100 online.

Because of constant pain which continued, he was a heavy user.

Smeaton pointed out that at the time, he was house-sitting.

He was said to have convictions for importing drugs, possessing drugs, producing drugs and causing criminal damage in a doctors' surgery.

His barrister, Kevin Seal, said: "He has had serious health problems."

## Mary completes half marathon for cancer charity

A steadfast Cancer Research Wales supporter from Porthcawl raised £285 by running the 13.1 mile Cardiff Half Marathon earlier this month.

Mary Beckett (29), pictured right, set herself a modest sponsorship goal of £100, and was overwhelmed by the generosity of donations from friends and family.

Speaking about the half marathon, Mary said: "I managed to beat my personal best time by seven minutes, and massively exceeded my fundraising target, so I'm feeling pretty proud!"

"This was my way of showing my support to everyone in my family who's been affected by



cancer - but especially my husband and his family, who have been through a very tough time recently."

Mary has completed numerous fundraising races for cancer charities in the past, and this is the second time she has taken on the Cardiff Half Marathon.

Mary said: "Cancer has affected my family a lot, so it's really important to me to raise money for a charity whose research into the treatment and diagnosis of cancer has benefitted, and will continue to benefit, my family and so many others."

Mary's grandmother and two aunts all battled with cancer and have now sadly passed away.

Mary said: "Their ability to remain bright and cheerful despite their suffering has been an inspiration to me for many years."

### WHAT'S ON/in brief

#### Autumn fayre

AN autumn fayre will be held at Crossway Methodist Church, Barry, by Age Concern Cardiff and Vale on Tuesday, October 29.

Admission is free and the event will be opened by Jane Hutt AM at 10am. Stalls include preserves, cakes, craft, jewellery and cards. There is also a grand prize draw.

Tickets are 20p and can be bought at The Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, or purchased at the fayre; contact 01446 732385.

#### Welsh Hearts

VISIT Welsh Hearts autumn market on Saturday, November 2 at the Town Hall in Cowbridge; a Christmas stall with cards and gifts, homemade cakes, plants and free admission from 11am-3pm. Contact the Fundraising Office on 02920 786521.

## Fitted Bedroom & Home Office



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# Marathon 'cycle ride' for charities

**RIGHT:**  
*Jane Hutt AM, with Ben Reid and Chris Williams, Lloyds Bank's cycling volunteers.*

ON October 16, Lloyds Bank staff took part in the 'Cycle Around the World Challenge' at Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff, to help raise £100,000 for charity.

The Welsh volunteers cycled a total of 800 miles to help the company reach its overall target of cycling 36,000 miles – the equivalent of going around the world one and a half times on an exercise bike to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer Scotland. Individuals in each team took it in turns to cycle for a total of 24 hours to reach their 800 mile target.

More than 500 employees across 40 locations in the UK are taking part in the challenge between October 16 – 17, by cycling 36,000 miles collectively. Teams across the UK will complete the cycle challenge at their different



ent locations to get their combined distances.

Welsh Assembly Members Jane Hutt and Byron Davies went along to Wales Millennium Centre, of which Lloyds Bank is a sponsor, to support the teams and help them on their way.

To help the cyclists get to their £100,000 target and support them on their journey visit [www.justgiving.com/NeuportSaddles](http://www.justgiving.com/NeuportSaddles).

## Festive bargains

**ST PAUL'S Church Hall, Barry, will hold a fayre on Saturday, November 2 at 2pm will be packed with goods at low prices for which the churches of St Paul's and Merthyr Dyfan are well known.**

Stalls include Christmas gifts, books, CDs and DVDs, home-made cakes, toys, bottle stall and hand-crafted gifts, jewellery, home produce and jams. There will be a grand prize draw with a £50 cash prize, drinks hamper and many more prizes.

Admission for children is free; for adults is just 50p and all proceeds are in aid of the continuing work of St. Paul's Church.

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### Mr Bartley Phillips

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# Man 'groomed' an eight-year-old girl

CARDIFF CROWN COURT IS TOLD

AN eight-year-old girl was 'groomed' by a man for his own sexual gratification, it was claimed at Cardiff Crown Court this week, writes AJ SICLUNA.

The court heard that the girl, who is now an adult, was told by Michael Batten that she must not tell anyone what they were doing. He also said, it was alleged, that if people found out, they would not be happy, and the

police would come and take her to jail.

Batten (70) of Neath Road, Maesteg, has pleaded not guilty to three charges of between 1982 and 1984 indecently assaulting the girl. He also pleads not guilty to committing an act of gross indecency against her.

Prosecutor Claire Pickthall said the alleged offences occurred in the Maesteg area, after Batten had gained the child's confidence.

Sometimes, it was claimed, he would kiss

her and give her a "grown-up kiss"; it was alleged he would touch her intimately and expose himself.

When he told her that if people found out she could go to jail, she was "affected very, very much and became frightened and confused".

Ms Pickthall said the child always believed that the police would help her, but one day, said the prosecutor, Batten went too far. He pointed out to her a police car and said that could be the vehicle that

would take her away, and that they had to be careful not to get caught.

The girl then devised a system of avoiding Batten. Once she left school, she left Maesteg and tried to forget what he had allegedly done to her, but over the years she would mention things to friends, the court heard.

Matters came to a head last year when she decided to confront Batten, and sent him a letter which was "angry and explosive". She wrote how she felt about what she said he had done to her and the effect upon her.

She gave a friend's address so he didn't know where she lived.

He replied: "I was extremely upset after reading what you had written."

He said that, in all sincerity, he wished her well in the future. Batten was arrested on November 15 and when the allegations were put to him he said: "I never sexually abused her, it never happened".

He said the allegations were a complete fabrication. He also said he found the letter "graphic and astonishing."

The case is expected to last four days.

## Police warning to residents over burglars

RESIDENTS in Barry are being urged to secure their homes, following a spate of burglaries at Cadroxton, when access was gained through unlocked doors or windows.

Sergeant Matt Rowlands, from Barry Police Station, said: "While we don't want to alarm residents, we feel it is important they are aware of these burglaries, so that they can ensure their homes are properly secured."

LOCK DOORS "Detecting and preventing burglary is a priority for South Wales Police."

"We would ask people to protect their homes by ensuring doors and windows are locked, both when they leave their property and before they go to bed at night, and also to report any suspicious behaviour by calling 999."

Anyone with information is asked to contact South Wales Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## 'Good Food Friends' support co-operative

A group of 'Good Food Friends' in Barry is backing the bid to buy local after more than 60 residents joined forces to support their local Community Food Co-operative.

Friends and neighbours with a shared love of fresh food have signed up to a scheme that provides them with fresh, seasonal and affordable fruit and vegetables, with all money spent going directly to local suppliers.

More than 300 Food Co-operatives across Wales hold weekly meetings where mixed bags of seasonal fruit and vegetables are sold for between £3 and £4. The volunteer-led co-ops meet at venues including schools, community centres, church halls, workplaces and other local community hubs.

Members of the local community that have joined the Barry Food Co-op, which celebrated its first anniversary this month (October), collect their locally sourced produce from volunteers that bag the goods up at their regular meeting venue, The People Centre at Dunlin Court, near Thompson Street. Volunteers help run Food Co-ops in the Barry area on a weekly basis, as part of a scheme run by the Rural Regeneration Unit, while a number of open days have also taken place across Wales to promote the programme further.

Volunteer Sandra Voisey said: "The Barry Community Food Co-op is a great way for me to keep in touch with my local community and something I

was immediately keen to get involved with.

"Families trying to balance increasing demand on their household budget with the pace of modern life, often struggle to find time to connect with neighbours and local traders too."

Sandra continued: "Community Food Co-operatives provide us all with the chance to buy fresh food at affordable prices, at a convenient time and place, and meet like-minded people too."

An independent social enterprise, the RRU has helped create hundreds of community food co-ops in Wales as part of its commitment to support the regeneration of communities across the UK.

Debbie Neale, general manager of the RRU, said: "Food Co-operatives are a great way to benefit the local community, both financially and socially."

"Buying fresh produce from your local co-op could not only save you money, but also help your friends and family eat more healthily too."

"With over 300 groups across Wales, your nearest food co-op is never too far away and these co-ops' doors are always open to new members."

More information is also available at [www.foodcoops.wales.org.uk](http://www.foodcoops.wales.org.uk) or [www.ruralregeneration.org.uk](http://www.ruralregeneration.org.uk).

## Dinas Powys assault: MAN IS SOUGHT

POLICE are investigating an assault that occurred in the early hours of Friday, October 18 in Dinas Powys.

A spokesperson reported that a 26-year-old woman walking along Cardiff Road was approached by a man, who attempted to drag her into an alleyway between Powys Place and Chapel Row and made lewd remarks to her.

The woman pulled free and the man ran back out onto Cardiff Road, where she lost sight of him. He was wearing

a dark coloured hooded jumper with the hood up and had a deep voice with a Cardiff accent.

After the incident, the victim tried to flag down vehicles and a passing cyclist stopped to assist her.

Officers are appealing for any witnesses to the incident, or anyone who may have seen the victim on Cardiff Road, as she was trying to flag down passing vehicles, to contact them.

Call Barry CID on 101, or Crimestoppers free on 0800 555111 (quote reference 62130328054).

## Fun at St Donats gets thumbs-up!

RIGHT: Archery was one of the activities on offer to pupils.

YEAR-6 pupils from Llancarfan Primary School recently enjoyed a five-day outdoor adventure at UWC Atlantic College, St Donat's Castle.

The trip was a great success, with every year-6 pupil taking part in a wide range of challenging activities from canoeing, and sand



sledging to caving. Most pupils hadn't experienced many of the activities and took them

all in their stride. When asked how the week went year-6 pupils replied "fun", "awesome", "cool", "exciting", "immense".

The superb setting of St Donat's Castle was also a highlight for the children who enjoyed castle adventures and exploring the grounds.

"Everyone gave Atlantic College and their Outdoor Adventure a massive thumbs up" said class teacher, Mrs Freeman. "It is the first time we have used this venue and we will most certainly look to use it again in the future."

"The pupils were fantastic ambassadors for our school and I was incredibly proud of them all, not only for their excellent manners but also for what they all achieved within the week."

"The course has undoubtedly helped them to see the benefits of working as a team and supporting each other both inside and outside of school."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Autumn fair

WICK and District Pensioners Club has recently enjoyed an exciting programme of events and activities, which continues with the club's autumn fair this Saturday, October 26 in Wick village hall from 2pm-4pm.

There have been speakers on Everyone's Future, Greenlinks, Farming, Life in the W.R.E.N.S. and the Alzheimer's Society.

There have been two special birthday parties, coach trips to Carmarthen, Abergavenny Market, Bourton-on-the-Water, Bath and other interesting places, including lunch and a boat trip on the Countess of Evesham.

Christmas lunch has been booked, and Wick Youth Club are educating members on the mysteries of the internet!

The club meets on alternate Wednesdays from 2-4pm in the Sports Pavilion, Wick.

If you would like more information please contact George, 01656 890386.

New members are always welcome. GJ

History group exhibition THIS coming weekend, October 26-27, the Barry Island Historical Group will hold its

annual exhibition of maps, posters, pictures, photographs and records at the Barry Island Community Centre, Friars Road, Barry Island.

It will be open on Saturday from 10 am to 4pm; and on Sunday from 2pm-6pm. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

### Family services

ALL Saints Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding a family service on Sunday, October 27 at 10am, suitable for all ages, and centred on the story of the Good Samaritan.

Creche facilities are available and refreshments served afterwards. All are welcome.

On October 31, the church is holding a Hallelujah Party for accompanied children of all ages from 5 to 6.30pm.

Food, games and activities will be provided and children are welcome to come dressed as their favourite character.

Admission is free though donations would be appreciated. All are welcome.

For more information about the church, [www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk](http://www.allsaintspenarth.org.uk)

Vale tenants' fun day VALE Council tenants are invited to a

Hallowe'en family fun day on October 31 in the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth, from 12.30pm - 4.30pm.

Face painting, balloon twisting and other entertainment will take place throughout the day, with refreshments available.

There will also be a children's fancy dress competition with a Hallowe'en theme.

Entry is by ticket only, allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, and can be obtained from Heather Powney on 01446 709895.

Music in the Vale ON November 23-24, Music in the Vale will be hosting its annual competition for young singers and instrumentalists in the Vale of Glamorgan.

This year, the competition will be held in Stanwell School, Penarth.

Over the two days, there will be auditions for singers and instrumentalists and finalists will perform at a concert which will be judged to find the winner and runner-up from each section.

Entries close on November 1.

For full details, and to download entry forms, go to the website: [musicinthevale.org.uk](http://musicinthevale.org.uk).

## Opening date for the all-new Bridgend library

OPENING details for the new Bridgend library have been revealed by Bridgend Library and Information Service.

The library will open in its new home at Bridgend Recreation Centre at 9am on Thursday, November 14.

A spokesman said: "Replacing the existing library on Wyndham Street, visitors can expect a larger and more accessible modern space equipped with a range of brand new services and features."

## Stock Clearance

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# Out and About with The GEM

## Valeways Walks

**TODAY (Thursday, November 24) at 10am, 'a long good walk', extended walk up to three hours, starting at The Star Inn, Wick.**

Also on November 24 at 10.30am, the coffee shop strollers (Rhoose hub), meet at the railway station car park. On Sunday, November 27 at 1.30pm, Llybr Arfordir

Cymru Ffontygarri – extended up to three hours, Gorsaf Reilffordd Y Rhws (Rhoose Railway Station).

Also on November 27 at 2pm, 'Gileston Glimpse' starting in Gileston village.

## Zumba class

A ZUMBA class is held every Wednesday at 7.30pm – 8.30pm at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Barry.

**Rhoose talk**  
RHOOSE and District History Society is holding a meeting on Friday, October 25 at 7.30pm in the lesser hall of Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose. Aaron Jones' topic will be 'Cosmeston Park and Medieval Village'. All are welcome; £1 entry fee to cover costs.

**Community garden volunteer day**  
BARRY Community Garden and Allotment is holding a volunteer gardening day on October 26 from 9.30am until 1.30pm.

The community garden is a beautiful space where all are welcome to come down and meet new people, grow their own fruit and veg, learn new skills and improve job prospects.

We need help getting ready for Spring and we'll be planting, weeding and digging.

Children are welcome but under 18s MUST be accompanied by an adult.

We'll have children's activities and free refreshments. Tools are supplied, just turn up wearing sturdy shoes or wellies!

## Thrift shop

THE Thrift Shop at St Athan will be closed for

## WHAT'S ON

half-term week,  
October 28-November 1 and will reopen at 10am on Monday, November 4.

**Mayor's coffee**  
THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of Cadotson (Barry) WI on Tuesday October 29 from 10.30am – 12 noon in the Civic Office. All are welcome.

## Gardening club

THE next meeting of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will be held on October 31, in the Lesser Town Hall at 7.30pm, when the speaker will be Dilys Ayling on 'Christmas from the Garden'. Visitors and new members welcome.

## Evening remembers Barry author

ART Central the Vale Council's art gallery, will host a celebration of the life of Welsh author Gwyn Thomas, on October 31 at 7pm, with refreshments from 6.30pm.

## During the evening,

Professor Dai Smith

and Professor Peter Stead, two former pupils of Gwyn Thomas at Barry Boys, will remember the life, work and legacy of the inspirational writer and teacher.

Born in Cymmer, Porth, and educated at Oxford University, Gwyn Thomas moved to Barry in the 1940s and taught Spanish at Barry County Boys' School for 20 years. During his time he published over 12 novels and collections of short stories.

Bringing this event to Barry is a significant and poignant reminder of the life-changing influence Gwyn Thomas had on his pupils and advocates during his time there.

Professor Dai Smith, chair of the Arts Council of Wales, a writer and Barry resident said: "The worlds of Gwyn Thomas collided at Barry in a mayhem of carnival and character, which was the bedrock of his writing and philosophy: Kiss me quick, Doctor Crippen's just around the next Cosy Corner!"

There will be an opportunity to browse Gwyn Thomas memorabilia and the current exhibition on show in the gallery, by Merthyr-based artist Gustavious Payne.

Visit [www.gwynthomaslsw.eventbrite.co](http://www.gwynthomaslsw.eventbrite.co)

uk or call 02920 376971 to register for the free event.

**Tax help for elderly**  
TAXHELP for Older People (TOP) will offer FREE professional advice to older people on a restricted income, with income tax queries and/or problems at Roz Couzens' Chiropractic Surgery, Unit 4, Commercial House, Llantwit Major CF61 1RB on November 4 from 10am until midday.

No appointment is necessary. To access TOP's helpline, telephone 0845 601 3321, or 01308 488066.

House visits can also be arranged via this helpline for people unable to attend the surgery.

## Crime prevention

A NEWTON crime prevention morning takes place on November 6 at 10.30am in Newton school rooms (located by Newton Green).

Contact PCSO Abigail Hughes on 0782 5262403 or Abigail.Hughes@south-wales.pnn.police.uk.

**Poppy appeal**  
Volunteer Poppy sellers

are urgently needed to assist the Royal British Legion's annual Poppy appeal in Bridgend. Call Andrew on 01656 669988 or 07775 902732 for full details.



## LAMB & FLAG WICK

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Sundays 12- 5pm

The full menu is now available and is the same as our sister pub The Highwayman, Rhoose - including steaks, fresh fish, pasta plus lots more, including the famous 'Condemned Mans Meal'.

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## The Caeffatri turns to a winning formula for dining out in Bridgend

**T**HE Caeffatri pub, which is tucked away just off Coity Road in Bridgend, has just been refurbished and has launched a brand new menu, so I went along to try it out on behalf of GEM readers.

My guest was familiar with the previous decor, and was mightily impressed with the new layout – comfortable chairs, and dark wood tables with plenty of space between them.

It's a layout that says traditional, good value food, and that is very much what is on offer.

Owner Derek Gaynor runs another restaurant that is well known to diners – the popular Highwayman at Rhose – and he cheerfully admits that the Caeffatri is intended to appeal to the same market.

The chefs have been trained at Rhose, and the menu contains the tried and tested Highwayman favourites.

If you are looking for amuse bouches, jus, rilletes, foams or any other Masterchef conceits, you won't find them at the Caeffatri!

My guest and I were tempted

by PHILIP IRWIN

by the pub classic section, with dishes such as steak and ale pie, homemade lasagne, or liver and onions, but instead headed for the extensive main menu.

The starter of a half rack of ribs (£4.95) was tempting, but I chose the fried whitebait, because the steak and ribs combo (£13.95) was irresistible as a main course (for me).

My guest went for the mussels, in white wine sauce with shallots, cream and garlic, followed by a salmon kebab.

If you are paying under £5 for a starter, you don't expect much in the way of extras, so we were pleasantly surprised to be served a proper salad with each. Indeed, the mussels came with bread as well, and this all disappeared mopping up the sauce, which was terrific.

There was plenty of it too, just as well really, as I was leaning over and dipping my whitebait in the sauce too!

The Highwayman offers large portions, and the same is true at the Caeffatri. There is a moment after the starters when you say to each other that you feel quite full already. That's when there is a

sharp intake of breath as the main course arrives!

My combo delivered on its promise. A large rack of ribs, dripping with a rich sauce, and a thick steak – medium rare as requested – were accompanied by home-made chips. Everything is cooked to order, and it shows.

My guest's salmon kebab, marinated in chilli and garlic, came with home-made coleslaw and chips, and she pronounced it an excellent dish.

If you think that you are full after the first two courses (and we were) the Caeffatri has one last temptation. There is no dessert menu. The sample desserts are brought to your table so you can take a long look at them.

As a result, my guest decided that the bread and butter pudding was made exactly as she liked it, and I couldn't resist the sticky toffee pudding. They did not disappoint when it came to tasting them either!

Diners in the Vale already know that the Highwayman is a very busy pub restaurant, and there is no reason why the Caeffatri shouldn't prove to be just as popular.

There is an over-60s lunchtime menu at only £4.45 and, even if you don't qualify for any concessions, good value hearty food is a formula that deserves to prosper.

You can't have enough variety in a town when it comes to eating out, and The Caeffatri is definitely adding to the mix!

## SUPERNATURAL TALES FROM ACROSS THE VALE...

**D**ID you know that Wenvoe and

Cadoxton were credited with having werewolves? Or that a were-wolf-like monster with a human upper body and glowing eyes haunts the village of Llyswoerney?

Well that's according to a fascinating A-Z guide to a land of ghosts and dark legends, strange animals and unexplained phenomena called *Supernatural Wales* by Alvis Nicholas and published by Amberley Publishing at £14.99.

The Llyswoerney creature, we are informed, has been seen along Heol Felin lane (pictured) between Crossways and Moorshead. And we learn that "Jenkin of Wilton Farm was returning home through the lane on his mare one evening. He was feeling rather flustered, having come home from a day at the local market. Suddenly, the mare reared up, threw Jenkin off and galloped home without him. Seeing the mare return without a rider, the residents of the farm set off to see what had happened to

**BOOK REVIEW** by BRIAN LEE

the old farmer. They eventually found him on his back in the mud, swearing that a GWYLLGI had frightened his horse."

Gwyllgi, we are informed, translates as 'Dog of Darkness' and one of these spirit hounds was frequently seen near Wilton Crossways.

Folklorist Marie Trevelyan, who grew up in the Vale, describing these creatures said: "This animal made unearthly howlings, and glared fiercely rendering people senseless".

Another haunted vale site featured is Old Beaupre Castle (pictured) which is haunted by a banshee-like ghost known as the Gwrach Y Rhibyn who is "seen to rise up out of the river next to the castle". While Dunraven Castle, sited on the headland above Southerndown beach, was haunted by the Blue Lady of Dunraven, who "put in several appearances to nursing staff when the castle was used as a home for convalescing soldiers during the First World War."

St Donat's Castle, which dates to the fourteenth century, was once "plagued by evil forces" and the castle "was once the most haunted

in Wales, and its resident ghosts terrorised an occupant in the late 19th or early 20th century".

These are just some of the entries and as Lionel and Patricia Fanthorpe say in their foreword to the book: "After half-a-century of

exploring the paranormal, this is one of the best guidebooks that we have yet encountered. Like a well-written encyclopedia, or an attractive drawn-up map, you can refer to it again and again and come up with interesting information every time."

## Bright Star will make you smile!

*The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219)*

**STAR** is a young Staffie cross who has had an unsettled life so far, having been passed through several owners, through no fault of her own, before finding herself at Dogs Trust.

From a nervous and worried dog at the time of being handed in to us, she has blossomed into a happy and confident girl we would love to see finally settled in a family home – she definitely deserves it!

"She would be more than happy to settle into a routine, and will reward you by being a fun and cuddly young dog," says Linda Feagan, Supporter Relations Officer at Dogs Trust Bridgend.



### RNLI BREAKFAST ROLL!

*THE Dinas Powys branch of the RNLI is holding its annual 'breakfast roll' on Saturday, November 2 at the Lee Hall, Dinas Powys, from 8.30am-11.30am.*

*Croissants, fruit bread, orange juice and tea/coffee; Christmas cards and calendars on sale and a raffle. Tickets available from committee members, or at the door.*

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# LES MISERABLES PROVES HUGE HIT FOR THE STAGE DOOR 1 COMPANY!



PHOTOS BY BETHANY BARRELL



**"Extraordinary!"  
"Jaw-dropping!"  
"Blown away!"**

These were the words of people leaving The Tythe Barn, St Donats Art centre between Friday, October 18 and Sunday, October 20, after a production of Les Miserables by Stage Door 1.

With a cast of 37 children, whose average age was 13, Stage Door 1 have been transporting their audiences back in time to the dark streets of revolutionary France. Jean Valjean, played by Luke James (15), delivered from the very outset a spectacular performance.

He transformed himself from a downtrodden convict who comes to terms with his new found freedom.

Through his tremendous vocal skill the audience was left weeping while at times being uplifted by Luke's interpretation of his character.

The audience was touched next by the raw passion displayed in Nia Brown's performance as Fantine (15). The calibre of singing from someone suffering throughout with tonsillitis only leaves you to wonder what dizzy heights Nia's voice will

reach when working at full capacity!

The demise of Fantine is brought about with the help of a spectacular, disturbing but moving, performance, involving the Factory Foreman (Takieluan Morgan); the ensemble (Maia Morgan, Holly Price, Caitlin Spargo, Nicole Alison, Kiara Evans, Cerys Baker, Becca Stuart, Grace Bennion) and the 'lovely ladies' (Jamie Morris, Bethany Barrell, Kathryn Llewellyn, Chloe Luxton, Nell Roberts, Elinor Parsons, Abbie Farmer, Anya Trudgian, Alice Thomas, Beth Marshall, Caitlin Dolman) - Fantine then descends into their world.

No show is without a character the audience loves to hate. The complexity of Javert was expressed expertly by Sebastian Lewis (15).

As his character comes to terms with the new depths of compassion being demanded of him, he in turn demanded this of his audience.

When a new atmosphere is required to move the audience into pre-revolutionary comradery, it is the beautiful baritone voice of Ryan Sommerfield (16) playing Enjolras who evokes this. His presence

demand his fellow students (Matt Davies, Ryan Sommerfield, Kyle John, Abbie Farmer, Takieluan Morgan, Alice Thomas, Anya Trudgian, Caitlin Dolman, Beth Marshall and Becca Stuart) and his audience consider the possibilities of a new and better world.

No story can be devoid of a love affair and Les Miserables is built on a tangled web of love and passions. The naive, raw, adolescent love expressed between Marius (Kyle John) and Cosette (Chloe Luxton) was beautiful, as too was the unrequited love of Eponine, beautifully portrayed by Kathryn Llewellyn. The ensuing friendships that underpin these roles were incredibly moving, a credit to the actors involved and the beautiful writing of Victor Hugo.

Hugo's writing strives to replicate the desperation and poverty of the masses and his genius was portrayed by Elinor Parson (13) and Aaron Ashley Perks (16), who brought a mature, sophisticated humour to their roles as Thenadier and Madame Thenadier. At no point did the audience disengage from their performances as they bounced off one



another's theatrical prowess; their stage presence was captivating and entrancing.

Furthermore, Madame Thenadier's schizophrenic parenting of little Cosette, played by Emma Barrell and Cerys Mitchell, and little Eponine, is haunting and reveals, to the audience, the dark underside of the character without missing the comic relief.

One of the youngest lead roles is Gavroche, played by Todd James (9). Todd brought a mischievousness and maturity to this role with a

perceptiveness beyond his years.

With the support of his gang (Mali Davies, Celyn White, Cerys Wood, Erica Talbot Morgan, Sophie Moore, Madi Davies, Cerys Mitchell and Emma Barrell), we were reminded of the survival instincts and cohesive community of the time.

This was a truly remarkable performance from all involved with professional lighting and sound enhancing a truly wonderful production.

FRAN DAVIES





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## Local companies can help you prepare for a trouble-free winter

**T**HE dark winter nights are already approaching and now is the time to make sure those essential maintenance jobs are done before you are hit with a crisis.

There is nothing worse than suffering a problem with the house or garden, and having to wait to have it dealt with at an inconvenient time of the year.

Local companies can help you avoid those problems – so book their services now, so you can relax through the winter months.

Top tips are:

- Make sure your gas and oil appliances have been properly serviced.

- If you need a boiler upgrade, now is the time, before the rush starts as old boilers start packing up.

- Your oven gets a lot more use in the colder months, so a thorough clean ensures it is in the best possible condition for Christmas.

- Have a safety check on your house electrics including your smoke alarms.

- Outside, make sure the garden has that last cut of the autumn and make sure any hazardous over-hanging branches or unsightly bushes are trimmed.

- Perhaps you need an extra outdoor light, so people don't slip in the darkness.

- Get these tasks done now and you won't have an infuriating crisis on Christmas Day!

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## DB Francis can keep you warm this winter

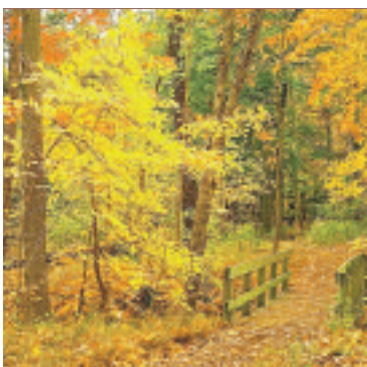
THE Farmers Almanac predicts a "piercing cold" season, so don't wait for your central heating boiler to break down – you can bet it will be on the coldest day of the year. Prepare for winter now!

A spokesperson for DB Francis said: "Why not have your boiler serviced, and its controls checked, so you can be reassured that you will be kept warm and safe this winter."

"For an efficient friendly service you can ring a local, family company which has served the Vale for 32 years – DB Francis Gas Service and Maintenance can be contacted on 01446 771112."

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# HANKS EXCELS IN TAUT AND TENSE REAL-LIFE DRAMA

**H**aving achieved the never-done-before feat of winning two successive 'best actor' Academy Awards, Tom Hanks has failed to add to those baubles despite delivering consistently strong performances in his work.

His best chance yet of matching Daniel Day-Lewis comes in real-life story *Captain Phillips*, where Hanks plays Captain Richard Phillips, who, in 2009, saw his ship hijacked by Somali pirates: staying with his ship, Phillips was held hostage in a story that captivated the world and now finds itself adapted by *United 93* director Paul Greengrass...

The main problem when making a story based on a real-life event is that, more often than not, the ending is in little doubt. Whether it is the ship sinking in *Titanic*, the family

being reunited at the end of *The Impossible* or Abraham Lincoln's evening at the theatre ending fatally, the onus is on the filmmakers to try and ratchet enough drama and tension when building up to the climax that you forget how it turns out.

That is something director Paul Greengrass does with *Captain Phillips*, the ending having been beamed around the world four years ago, but here, on a cinema screen with Tom Hanks starring as the titular captain, being wrung for as much tension and doubt as it can manage before delivering its conclusion.

It may benefit you not knowing exactly how the story of Captain Phillips being taken hostage plays out, but even if you do, you'll be questioning it as Greengrass delivers a masterclass in suspense and drama, slowly ramping up the stakes.

Shot through with a documentary-style realism that has become the



by GARETH JAMIESON  
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director's calling card, it makes events all the more vivid and lends a hard-edge that is impossible to ignore.

Writer Billy Ray, who has previous in real-life stories, brings a clinical eye to proceedings; there are no cut-aways to Phillips' family, no softening the edges.

What Ray's script does well is provide a counter balance, making the hostage takers more than simply nameless and faceless individuals;

giving them background, and shading in their motivations, you don't feel sympathy for them as much as you can understand their plight and why their actions have led them to this.

With such a superb script and director, it's no surprise that Tom Hanks is absolutely mesmerising here.

Having shown an ability like no other present-day actor to inhabit the American everyman, the role is tailored to his strengths.

Phillips wasn't a John McClane-style hero, just a scared man trying to do his best in the circumstances presented to him, and Hanks captures every inch of Phillips' humanity and vulnerability in a performance that will almost certainly result in - at least - another Oscar nomination.

While the film rests on Hanks' shoulders, alongside him the performances of the hostage takers are perfectly essayed by the likes of Barkhad Abdi,

Barkhad Abdirahman, and Faysal Ahmed, their performances bringing an authenticity and realism, while also going toe-to-toe with Hanks and coming out equal.

While an exhausting experience (and a film for whom seat edges were made for), *Captain Phillips* is a hugely watchable piece of work, essayed with style and aplomb and no little drama, a truly mesmerising and immersive moviegoing experience.

**VERDICT** - Taut and tense, *Captain Phillips* is a real-life story that is delivered with a gritty sense of realism that works incredibly well. Documentary-style direction from Paul Greengrass, married to a hard-boiled script and incredible performances, it is a film that grabs hold of you from the outset and never lets go. *Essential viewing.*

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Castaway* (2000), *United 93* (2006)

## Conservative AM hits at 'real terms' cut in Vale funding

**THE** leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT, has reacted with "dismay" to news that the area is receiving a cut in funding from the Welsh Government.

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, said the reduction was a disappointment and that in 'real terms' it equated to 6.3 per cent - or £10.36 million.

He claimed it meant cuts would hit public services in the Vale harder than in many other authorities in Wales.

A Welsh Government source pointed out 'settlement' was difficult because of UK Government cuts.

Mr Davies said: "The Vale is already under-funded by the Welsh Government to the tune of around £25 million when compared to neighbouring authorities.

"Now we see that the latest settlement has short-changed local residents further, with the Vale facing the fourth largest cut of any authority in the country.

"It is disappointing that the Welsh Government Finance Minister and local AM, Jane Hutt, was unable to secure a better deal for the Vale when compared to other councils in Wales.

"Whilst we all accept that the purse strings are tight, I'm not sure that financial constraints can explain why the Vale has yet again

been hit harder than its neighbours."

Mr Davies said that the Vale's real terms cut compared to neighbouring authorities, Cardiff - 4.7 per cent, Rhondda Cynon Taff - 5.1 per cent and Bridgend - 4.6 per cent.

The average cut in funding across Wales stands at 5.3 per cent.

A Welsh Government spokesperson responded: "It's a sad day for Wales, when the Leader of the Welsh Tories declares publicly that he has not the slightest idea how local government settlements are arrived at.

"The allocation of funding to Local Authorities is kept under constant review and the formula is maintained and developed in consultation with Local Government representatives.

"This is an extremely difficult settlement for Local Authorities, directly caused by the UK Government cuts to the Welsh block."

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## Children's choices and School's out inspiration...



## Fun weekend of water sports GET ON BOARD FOR THE BIG 'SPLASHUP'

**T**HE surf's up in Porthcawl this weekend for 'The Splashup,' October 25 - 27, so don't miss your chance to get on board!

Surfing, kayaking, paddle boarding and power kiting are among the water sports that visitors to the event can try for free at special taster sessions.

Organised by local businesses and water sports organisations with support from Bridgend County Borough Council, The Splashup's water sports programme will kick

off on the Friday night with a spectacular night surf and lights show from 8pm in front of the esplanade.

Town beach is a tricky 'break' which isn't surfed very often, so it will present some unique challenges for the 16 experienced competitors who are flying in to take part.

The Splashup is one of only two events in the whole of the UK to feature night surfing, and some of the finest local and international surfing talents will take to the floodlit waves on the Saturday evening too.

Sunday's surfing exploits will then feature a junior competition at Rest Bay, one of Wales' most renowned beaches for surfers.

As well as marvelling at the elite surfers, visitors to the event can try their hand at surfing in taster sessions organised by 'Porthcawl Surf School' at Rest Bay on Saturday at 10am, 12pm and 2pm.

Power kiting will be another sport that you can try out for free at Rest Bay too thanks to 'Blast Kiteboarding'. All equipment and wet-suits will be provided free of charge.

Over at Coney Beach, there will be a chance to try stand up paddle boarding with 'Adventures Wales' or kayaking with 'Escape Watersports'. Both taster sessions will run between 10am and 4pm.

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Penarth Pets are having a FREE microchipping session on Thursday October 24, from 11am to 3pm (today) in association with Dogs Trust. Get there quick!

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## Noson Calan Gaeaf at Hendrewennol Fruit Garden

**W**ITH research from the National Museum of Wales at St Fagans, and the support of the Creative Rural Communities, Hendrewennol, near Cowbridge, has teamed up with the drama department of Bridgend College and 30 of its students; for eight days of storytelling, drama, pumpkin carving and spooky Hallowe'en fun.

From Friday October 25 to Friday November 1, Hendrewennol Fruit Garden will be holding Hallowe'en at Hendrewennol; comprising a series of fun, creative and scary

activities, including a spooky maize maze challenge (a field of maize 7ft high with a maze cut into it and filled with all manner of spooky characters and happenings), afternoon pumpkin carving at its Pumpkin School, and storytelling in the Hay Bale theatre.

A spokesperson reports:

"Our pumpkin patch is harvested and the carving must begin."

"The spooks and ghouls are lurking in our maize maze, where a mysterious graveyard has emerged from the mist."

"It's time to cross our bridge of doom and test your mettle in the leafy labyrinth!"



ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

## Children's choices and School's out inspiration...

### KEEPING CHILDREN ENTERTAINED IN WINTER MONTHS IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE!

**A**FTER a summer with lots of good weather for children to play outside, we have been suddenly plunged into a torrential autumn – but parents anxious to find things for their offspring to do need not despair.

Over the next few weeks, there are lots of events to keep youngsters entertained and diverted.

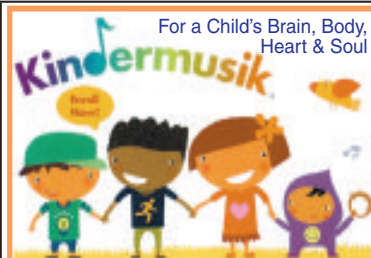
First along, comes Halloween. The Friends of Victoria Park in Cadoxton, Barry are inviting families to a Halloween Tea Party and Disco from 4.30pm to 7pm.

Some parents organise Halloween parties themselves, but if 'trick or treat' is involved, proper adult supervision of youngsters is necessary.

There are also public Bonfire Night events planned, so keep an eye on The GEM for details as

they are announced. If parents need child care on particular days because they need time for Christmas shopping or other pressing tasks, there are creche groups that will help. Some people want

their children to be stimulated with activities such as acting, dance or music – again there are lots of theatre groups across Bridgend and the Vale that will welcome them.



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**It's a Halloween Party that's sure to be a Fright!**

**Frightday 1st November, 8pm til past the witching hour in the Caeffatri Bar**

**SPOOKY-ONE with Count Karaoke... Apple bobbing... Pumpkin Competition**

"You can come for the night, you can come for a flash, but come to have fun, at our Halloween bash."  
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These events are also available at The Highwayman, Rhooose. Please call for further details 01446 710205. Fully refurbished large Function Room available.

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## Readers' Letters

**IMPORTANT!** We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. **LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!**

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters **BRIEF** and address them to: The Editor, **DON JOHN**, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email [gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk)

### 'THERE WAS NO ATTEMPT TO MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL'

**W**HILST agreeing unreservedly with the Editor's letter last week – issues are indeed more important than political attacks – I feel it only right that I have the opportunity to reply to several factual errors in Coun Burnett's comments in The GEM last week.

Firstly, in the article you published last week, Coun Lis Burnett claimed to have held a recent meeting with the Minister for Transport at which the issue of trans-

port was discussed.

According to a Freedom of Information request I have today received from the Welsh Government, the meeting did not include the subject of bus services at all.

I received confirmation in writing today that Coun Burnett has neither met with the Transport Minister or the Local Government Minister to discuss support for buses in the Vale – neither is there any written correspondence between them. This FOI is published on the Welsh Government's FOI log.

Secondly, the enter-

prise zone is one of the most significant economic levers available to the Vale Council in terms of potential job creation and prosperity.

Whilst the council may be represented on the enterprise zone board, it is truly remarkable that Coun Burnett, who is the cabinet member with executive responsibility for economic regeneration, has not met personally with the chair of the zone at any stage to discuss its progress.

(This information was published in a Freedom of Information Request on October 1)

I should like to con-

firm, finally, that I have not personally organised any public bus meetings, and so I am unable to confirm whether Coun Burnett was indeed invited to the one to which she refers.

In her article last week it was claimed that I had attempted to make political capital out of criticising her for not attending – this simply is not true. I was merely invited to attend myself.

The real issue at stake here is the withdrawal of bus services, lost regeneration funding for Barry and an enterprise zone that appears to be drifting along aimlessly – all of which the council has

a key role in either delivering or funding.

Coun Burnett looks forward to "an open and frank conversation" with me when I am (in her words) prepared to deal in facts.

Each of my recent criticisms withstand scrutiny and I stand by them. I also look forward to her reply to my letter requesting an urgent meeting to discuss bus provision in the Vale, which was sent on August 6, 2013 – to date I have yet to receive the courtesy of a reply.

**Andrew RT Davies AM**  
(Regional Assembly Member, South Wales Central)

### 'Prepare for even more budget cuts'

**I**FEEL disappointed that the Welsh Government has given our councils the worst settlement since devolution.

What is even worse for me is the fact that my council, the Vale, will be hit the hardest with a 4.5 per cent reduction in cash terms.

This will mean that services will suffer and jobs will have to be cut. It could even mean that some authorities in Wales could go bust, due to this challenging budget.

The Welsh Government claim that the budgets are to be allocated by levels of deprivation but although Barry is situated in a

very affluent county, I think they have forgotten that the town has pockets of deprivation, such as in my Court Ward.

This will see councils potentially having to close libraries and sports centres, slash pothole and other day-to-day maintenance, cut bus subsidies and switch off street lights between midnight and dawn.

We, as councils, are expected to do far more for less and we are likely to face a £460m funding shortfall by 2016.

I for one will continue to fight for the most vulnerable in our communities, to try and protect them from these cuts.  
**Coun Richard Bertin, Independent, Barry**

### 'The transport cuts are unnecessarily severe'

**L**AST Friday, October 18, there was standing room only at St Peter's Church in Rhooose, as residents gathered to express their concerns to MP Alun Cairns, Andrew RT Davies AM, ward councillors Jeff James and me, regarding the reductions in bus services affecting the community.

Points were raised regarding the detrimental effect that poor transport links have on the ability of residents to attend hospital appointments, as well as the reduction in employment opportunities due to lack of bus transport.

Many citizens voiced justified concerns in relation to these cuts in local services, as the Welsh Assembly Government has recently awarded a contract operating air-conditioned buses at 20-minute intervals from Cardiff Central to the airport, at a cost of £475k p/a.

I live near the route of this service T9 and have used this service and have noticed that there are no passengers on these buses most of the time.

Officially, these buses are not allowed to pick up passengers at the designated stops but are only allowed to drop off.

I have previously voiced my concerns by letter to Edwina Hart (the Transport Minister for WAG) about this unsatisfactory state of affairs, with reference to this obvious waste of public money on the T9, whilst local services have been decimated.

She responded by stating that the T9 service would be reviewed in January. This is not good enough.

The meeting concluded that there was an overwhelming viewpoint that the transport cuts were unnecessarily severe and were causing undue hardship.

Residents were informed that their concerns would be addressed.

**Philip Clarke,**  
(councillor for Rhooose.)

### China's stake in the UK nuclear industry

**CHAIRMAN MAO** famously said: "Power grows out of the barrel of a gun"...fast forward 60 years and power now seems to flow westward from China – out of the barrel of cash.

An instance is EDF Energy's £14 billion Hinkley Point project in Somerset, soon to be visible to us all in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Chinese have pledged billions of pounds of investment to rescue Britain's flagging reactor new-build programme, after the UK Government's recent agreement with the state-owned China Guangdong Nuclear

Power Company.

The project in Somerset will see the construction of the UK's first reactor in a generation, producing six per cent of the UK's power.

In return, CGNP wants sites in the UK to use its own reactor design.

So, if power does flow from the gun, nuclear power can be said to flow from a Chinese cheque book.

Communists proping up capitalism. The world really is topsy-turvy!

**Christopher Short,**  
Barry

### Competition winner is announced!



**FOLLOWING** a very successful competition to win a top of the range Honda mower, Richard Couzens is happy to announce that the lucky winner was Mrs A Baxter from St Athan

Richard said: "In addition, we also extended the popular cash-back offer of up to £100 off Honda mowers through August and September, which was unique to Richard Couzens and much appreciated by you, our customers."

"As a further thank you to our customers, old and new, we are happy to announce that we have extended this offer until December."

"We would like to thank customers for their support throughout the year, and hope we can be of assistance to you all in the future."

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# WINTER SERVICING

A Glamorgan GEM Advertisement Feature

## KEEP YOUR CAR IN TIP TOP CONDITION!

### ROSPA says: 'Service and check your car for the cold months ahead'

**R**OSPA – the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents – emphasises that driving during the winter should involve proper preparation of your vehicle.

A spokesman explained: "Driving in the winter is very different from other times of the year.

"Adverse weather and longer periods of darkness, especially after the clocks go back at the end of October, makes driving more hazardous.

"Sometimes conditions can be extreme, as we have found out over recent winters in particular,

with prolonged periods of heavy snow and floods.

"This means that we need to adapt the way we drive. Different weather conditions create different hazards throughout the winter and in different areas of the country at different times.

"A single journey may take us into very different weather, road and traffic conditions, so we need to be prepared for each one."

**He stressed: "It is a good idea to have your vehicle fully serviced before winter starts and have the anti-freeze tested."**

What are the main things you need to have checked before the onset of adverse weather condi-

tions?

**You should ensure that:**

Lights are clean and working.

Battery is fully charged.

Windscreen, wiper blades and other windows are clean and the washer bottle filled with screen wash.

Tyre condition is good, the tread depth and pressure meet legal requirements (and that includes the spare!).

Brakes are working well.

Fluids are kept topped up, especially windscreen wash (to the correct concentration to prevent it freezing), anti-freeze and oil.

#### PREPARE YOUR JOURNEY

The spokesman said that if a motorist was undertaking a long journey, being prepared was essential.

"Listen to local or national weather broadcasts and travel bulletins – especially for the areas you will be driving through.

"As conditions can change rapidly, check them regularly and be prepared to change your plans if conditions on your route worsen.

"If conditions are very bad, and the emergency services are recommending that people don't travel, then avoid making your journey unless it is absolutely necessary.

"Can you postpone your trip? Can you travel by other means, or avoid the need for the journey completely by using the phone or email?"

"Of course, what's 'essential' to one person may not be to another; we each have to make our own decisions according to our circumstances.

"But, try to be realistic about which journeys are essential and which ones could be postponed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23)

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# WINTER SERVICING

A Glamorgan GEM Advertisement Feature

## KEEP YOUR CAR IN TIP TOP CONDITION!

# ENSURING YOUR CAR IS READY FOR THE WINTER ONSLAUGHT...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22)

*If you decide you really must travel:*

- Let someone know where you are going and what time you hope to arrive, so that they can raise the alarm if you get into difficulties.
- Plan alternative routes in case your main choice(s) becomes impassable.
- Keep your fuel tank near to full to ensure that you do not run out.
- Make sure you have a fully-charged mobile phone, so you can call for help or alert someone if you're delayed – it could be a long walk to a phone, if you don't have a mobile phone.
- If you don't have an emergency kit in your vehicle, at least take extra warm clothes, boots and a torch. Consider keeping a couple of long-life energy bars in the glove box.
- Clear your windows and mirrors completely of snow and ice before you set off (make sure the heater is blowing warm air before setting off – it

will keep your windscreen clear.)

*Prepare yourself*

The ROSPA spokesman said most people have little experience of driving in extreme conditions, such as snow, so the organisation advised people to take some time to consider how it affects their driving.

He urged: "Don't just drive as normal. When was the last time you had any driver assessment or training? This is an ideal time for some refresher training. If your employer provides driver training, take advantage of it.

"Or you can contact the RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders group in your area. To find out which is the nearest to you, go to [www.roadar.org](http://www.roadar.org).

"A lot of us will catch colds or other illnesses during the winter.

"If you're feeling so ill that your driving might be affected, don't take the chance of driving."

### DRIVING IN SNOW OR ICE

If you find yourself driving in snow, or on icy or snow covered roads, ROSPA says you must adapt your driving to the conditions.

The spokesman advised: "Reduce your speed. The chances of skidding are much greater and your stopping distance will increase massively.

"Only travel at a speed at which you can stop within the distance you can see to be clear.

"Speed limits are the maximum in ideal conditions; in difficult conditions, they can often be too fast.

"Avoid harsh braking and acceleration, or sharp steering.

"Always reduce your speed smoothly and in plenty of time on slippery surfaces.

"Slow down in plenty of time before bends and corners.

"Braking on an icy or snow-covered bend is extremely dangerous. The centrifugal force will continue to pull you outwards and the wheels will not grip very well. This could cause your vehicle to spin.

"To brake on ice and snow without locking your wheels, get into a low gear earlier than normal, allow your speed to fall, and use your brakes gently.

"Increase the gap between you and the vehicle in

front. You may need up to TEN TIMES the normal distance for braking.

"Keep your vehicle well-ventilated. The car heater turned up full can quickly make you drowsy.

"In snow, stop frequently to clean the windows, wheel arches, lights and number plates.

"Visibility will probably be reduced, so use dipped headlights.

"During wintry weather, road surfaces are often wet and/or covered in frost and ice or snow. But this does not occur uniformly.

"A road will often have isolated patches of frost or ice after most of the road has thawed – this com-

monly occurs under bridges."

*Getting stuck in snow is a motorist's worst nightmare, so what should you do?*

The spokesman said: "If you get stuck in snow revving your engine to try to power out of the rut will just make the rut worse.

"Instead, move your vehicle slowly backwards and forwards out of the rut using the highest gear you can.

"If this doesn't work, you may have to ask a friendly passerby for a push or get your shovel out.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)

## How to be a safer driver when the clocks go back

**M**OTORISTS are being warned to take a "safety first" approach to driving this winter when the clocks go back on October 27.

Research has shown that there are 11 per cent more car insurance claims made following the end of British Summer Time – with the days becoming shorter and the roads slipperier.

In 2011, the winter period accounted for more than 1,700 road casualties nationally.

Terry Gibson, of the independent garage scheme Trust My Garage, said: "As it gets darker much earlier, motorists need to make sure that they remain safe on the roads.

"October is a typical time for road accidents, which can often be avoided by taking extra care on the road and by motorists carrying out extra checks on their vehicles – especially their lights."

A recent survey by Trust My Garage found that 84 per cent of motorists fail to carry

out basic checks on their vehicle – something which becomes increasingly more important at this time of year.

Motorists who get used to driving their regular routes in broad daylight can find it hard to adjust to suddenly doing the same journey in the dark.

Mr Gibson added: "Drivers should ensure that their windows and lights are clean at all times to enable them to see what is happening around them.

"A good rule of thumb is to turn on dipped headlights whenever the windscreen wipers are on.

"Being seen is as important as seeing.

"Remember, it is an offence to let your reservoir run out for your windscreen washers, so make sure this is always topped up, and have your tyres at the correct pressure so your stopping distance is not increased.

"Regular servicing can help make sure your car is fit for darker and wetter conditions."

## OWENS MOTOR SERVICES

Are pleased to announce that this year's 2013 FREE Christmas Raffle entry has now opened...

Just pop into the office with an invoice for work carried out this year, 2013 (copies can be obtained).

One entry per person, which has to be entered by yourselves to be in with a winning chance

(Draw takes place on December 16, 2013).

**SPECIAL RAFFLE FOR OWENS MOTOR SERVICES CUSTOMERS**

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4th Prize	£50.00	+ Free Class 4 MOT
5th Prize	Free Class 4 MOT	plus various other prizes
6th Prize	Free Interior Valet	

## BOOK NOW FOR YOUR FREE VEHICLE WINTER CHECK

**£10.00 Discount off MOT price when service & MOT booked together**

£10 offer closes Saturday 30th November 2013. Terms and conditions apply.

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# WINTER SERVICING

A Glamorgan GEM Advertisement Feature

## KEEP YOUR CAR IN TIP TOP CONDITION!

### Hints to get your car in tip-top condition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

The spokesman continued: "If you get caught in a snow drift, don't leave your vehicle. Call your breakdown service or the emergency services and let help come to you."

#### RAIN

*Rain reduces a motorist's ability to see and greatly increases the distance required to slow down and stop.*

The spokesman said: "Remember that you will need about twice your normal braking distance."

"Use windscreen wipers, washers and dipped headlights; drive smoothly, and plan your moves in plenty of time."

The spokesman added: "Aquaplaning is caused by driving too fast into surface water. When the tyre tread cannot channel away enough water, the tyres lose contact with the road and your car will float on a wedge of water."

"Aquaplaning can be avoided by reducing speed in wet conditions."

"Having the correct tyre pressure and tyre tread depth will maximise your tyres' ability to maintain their road grip."

"If it happens, ease off the accelerator and brakes until your speed drops

sufficiently for the car tyres to make contact with the road again."

#### FLOODED ROADS

*How should you tackle roads where flooding has taken place?*

#### The top tips are:

Avoid the deepest water – which is usually near the kerb.

Don't attempt to cross if the water seems too deep.

If you are not sure of the water's depth, look for an alternative route.

If you decide to risk it, drive slowly in first gear but keep the engine speed high by slipping the clutch – this will stop you from stalling.

Be aware of the bow wave from approaching vehicles – operate an informal 'give way' with approaching vehicles.

Remember to test your brakes when you are through the flood.

#### FOG

*Avoid driving in fog, unless your journey is absolutely necessary.*

Fog is one of the most dangerous weather conditions.

An accident involving one vehicle can quickly involve many others, especially if they are driving too close to one another.

### Wintry weather means it's time to prepare for safe motoring...

**W**HEN it comes to preparing for winter, the experts at the Automobile Association know what they are talking about.

So, any motorist would be well advised to take heed of their advice.

Winter is the season requiring most care and preparation, if you're to stay safe and avoid a breakdown.

Here is the AA's general advice for safe and trouble-free driving through the cold, dark months that lie ahead...

#### Battery and electrics

Lights, heaters and wipers put high demands on the car battery.

If your driving is mainly dark, rush-hour trips, the battery will give out eventually.

Batteries rarely last longer than five years. Replacing one near the end of its life can save a lot of time and incon-

venience at the side of the road.

- Avoid running electrical systems any longer than necessary – turn the heater fan down and switch the heated rear window off once windows are clear.

- If the car stands idle for most of the weekend, a regular overnight trickle charge is a good idea to give the battery a chance to revive.

- Turn off non-essential electrical loads like lights, rear screen heater and wipers before trying to start the engine.

- Use the starter in short five-second bursts if the engine doesn't start quickly, leaving 30 seconds between attempts to allow the battery to recover.

#### Protect your engine

A continuous squealing noise as soon as the engine is started is a sign the water pump is frozen – it's the fan belt slipping on the pulley.

The cylinder block could be frozen, too. Stop the engine immedi-

ately and allow it to thaw out.

This may take several days, unless the car can be moved to a heated garage.

If the car begins to overheat a few miles from home, it's likely that the radiator has frozen, preventing coolant from circulating.

Stop straightaway, to avoid serious damage and allow the radiator to thaw.

- Antifreeze costs only a few pounds, but a frozen and cracked engine block will cost hundreds of pounds to repair.

- Most modern cars use long-life antifreeze – it's important to use the right type and avoid mixing different types. Check the handbook or ask a dealer for advice.

- Glycol-based antifreeze should be changed at least every two years.

- You need a 50-50 mix of antifreeze and water in the cooling system for winter. This gives maximum protec-

tion down to -34° centigrade, and without it, severe engine damage costing hundreds of pounds can occur.

#### Clear line of sight

Keep the windscreen and other windows clear – if your vision is obscured through dirt, snow or even sticker-infested car windows, you could face a hefty fine.

Clear snow from the

roof as well as from windows, as this can fall onto the windscreen obscuring your view. It can be a hazard to other road users as well.

Dazzle from a low winter sun can be a particular problem.

- Improve vision by making sure that the windscreen is clean both inside and out.

Scratches, abrasion and chips on the outside can also worsen the dazzling effect of the sun.

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### Don't get caught out this winter! Why should I fit winter tyres?

More than half of UK motorists admit feeling less safe driving in the winter, yet many of us do little to prepare our cars for the colder weather. Research commissioned by TyreSafe, the UK's leading tyre safety organisation, found the biggest worry for drivers in the winter is that they are more likely to have an accident as the roads feel more slippery.

Switching to winter tyres could dramatically increase your safety over the entire winter period and could even save you money. They're constructed to give you a much better grip, reducing your stopping distances on wet or icy roads. And because they are specially designed to operate in temperatures below 7°C, their wear rate is significantly better than normal 'summer' tyres in the colder winter months!

#### Last year, drivers struggled without winter tyres

- 54% of drivers said they felt less safe when driving in the winter.
- 45% of drivers said their biggest fear about driving in the winter was that they were more likely to have an accident as the roads felt more slippery.
- 1 in 3 drivers skidded on Britain's roads.
- 15% were involved in, or witnessed, an accident.
- 12% only narrowly avoided a collision.
- 1 in 6 drivers had to abandon their journey.

#### Let's put a stop to accidents this winter

These stopping distances prove you're less likely to get in a scrape if you switch to winter tyres.

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## BEACH CLEAN ANNIVERSARY!

*The Friends of Barry Beaches line up with the Mayor (and a mystery admirer).*



**FRIENDS of Barry Beaches celebrated their third anniversary of cleaning Barry's five main beaches, at with a cake and a big 'thank you' from the Mayor of Barry Coun Claire Curtis at Porthkerry's Forest Lodge. The next beach clean is on Sunday, October 27, meeting at 3pm in Jackson's Bay, Barry Island.**

## Terry Waite tells his story and... RECEIVES A ROUSING STANDING OVATION!



Pictures by MIKE WILCOCK



### Have a 'frightful!' time at Victoria's Halloween

**FOLLOWING the huge success of last year's Halloween Party, the Friends of Victoria Park invite you to come along and enjoy a fun-filled and rather scary evening on Thursday, October 31.**

The Friends are hosting a Halloween Tea Party and Disco in the park for families and children, and the fun all runs from 4.30pm to 7pm.

There'll be fancy dress and 'Bring your Best Carved Pumpkin' competitions for all ages,

with cash prizes for the winners.

There are the Marquess of Mystery where you can play Halloween games, try the spooky activities, get frights and screams and win fun prizes.

The popular Mini Monsters Ball Disco will be there, Owls 4U will be bringing their Owls along for a hoot so you can have a photo taken with them, and the ever popular Witches' Kitchen will be serving blood soup, batcakes, ratcakes, and spiders' legs.

For the grown-ups there will be the more usual refreshments available as well!

A spooks-person for the Friends howled: "We

are delighted to invite ghosts, ghouls, goblins, and monsters young and small for fun and frights at the Monster's Ball. Come and dress up and have a creepy time, if you feel brave have a walk around the park in the dark, and listen out for ghosts and witches flying by.

"It's free entry as usual (small charge for the activities) and all the proceeds go to the Friends group and local charities, so we hope you will come and have a frightful time."

For further information please contact Jon Greatrex on 07809 551465, or email jgreatrex@valeofglam-organ.gov.uk.

**HOW would you cope with four years in total solitary confinement, most of the time naked and chained hand and foot to a wall?**

Only five minutes every day to stretch your legs and go to the toilet? Just enough food to keep yourself alive?

Terry Waite, CBE, was held hostage for nearly five years in Lebanon, in appalling conditions, never knowing whether each day was going to be his last.

There were even a couple of mock executions, when a gun was put to his head – but not fired.

Terry had a tale to tell. He was the hostage negotiator, held from January, 20, 1987 until November 18, 1991, a total of 1,763 days in captivity.

He gave a talk to a fascinated audience at The Bear on Saturday, October 19, about those dark days cut off from humanity.

It was a very interesting evening, organized by the Rotary Club of Cowbridge, and it earned him a standing ovation when he finished.

The little insights of life under such awful conditions – even the guard looking after his food was cheating him with half-rations, until he was caught and shot – served to remind his audience that at any one time, there are hundreds of people being held

hostage around the world. However, Terry's work didn't stop when he was released. It went on. He is also the President of Emmaus UK, a charity offering homeless people a home, work and a chance to rebuild their lives in a supportive environment.

The charity is looking forward to opening its first base in Wales, in Bridgend, in the near future, and proceeds from the evening, which included a charity auction after the talk, will be going to support this worthwhile cause.

It was an inspirational evening from a great story-teller and humanitarian. **AB**

## Dinas Powys Probus hears of Fishlock's travels

**ON October 15, Trevor Fishlock gave a talk to the Dinas Powys Probus Club on his career as a journalist and broadcaster.**

His parents were avid readers of newspapers and listeners of radio programmes and while at school Trevor won a camera in a competition to write in 25 words what he liked about Jaffa oranges.

This made him realise that he could make a career from writing. On leaving school and after a spell on a local newspaper in Hereford, he joined The Times in London as an apprentice reporter.

This was a hard learning curve with senior reporters quick to criticize his grammar and punctuation, but nevertheless, he enjoyed the noise and pressure of a busy newsroom.

In 1969 Trevor was sent to Wales to give an Englishman's view of Wales and the Welsh.

At that time, Wales was a hot-bed of industrial turmoil and was a reporter's dream with frequent and contentious subjects to write about, and he loved the independence of being away from London.

He recalled the message sent by a mason building one of Edward's castles to the King in which he said: "The

Welsh need watching so be quick with the money."

The national press had little understanding of Wales and its people.

Trevor was then sent to India, based in Delhi, as staff correspondent. He spent some time in Pakistan and Kashmir.

Accompanied by an American reporter and guided by Mujahideen, who later became the Taliban, he made a two-week trek over the Khyber Pass into Afghanistan which was at war with Russia.

While in India, he met Mother Teresa who said that in her eyes "even journalists can do the work of God".

In the 1980/90s, he made visits to Moscow, as correspondent for The Daily Telegraph, and also made visits to Yakutsk in Siberia.

Back in Wales, The Times suggested that he walk from south to north Wales describing the countryside and meeting local people. This was the start of Walks in Wales, a TV series during which he met a hairdresser in Laugharne who gave Dylan Thomas a haircut before he left for New York on his last journey. He was also shown the skull of General Picton's horse which was kept under the floorboards of a house in west Wales!

The vote of thanks was given by Peter Hilary-Jones.

## Penarth Computer Club PETER'S PREDICTIONS

**PETER'S predictions come with the advice that they should be taken with a pinch of salt.**

Things often turn out to take an entirely different path. That was in July. His advice was preceded by some 30 years by Frederick Pohl, who died in September.

Pohl was a noted science fiction writer from the 1950s to the 1980s. Just as Asimov established the 'Three Laws of Robotics' before robots existed, so Pohl was a forward thinker about how society would function in the future; much of it in collaboration with CM Kornbluth, another writer.

He wrote of society dominated by powerful business interests and the public manipulated. He edited sci-fi magazines, won a Nebula award and was a sought-after speaker. As a futurist he was often asked about the future.

His thoughts always included a warning that predictions, even in the short term, were "all but useless".

Returning to Peter's predictions and pinch of salt; he thinks about where current trends will lead.

Some of his previously predicted changes have not only happened, but more are on the way. The App stores and music stores are already massive and growing.

The services and capabilities being incorporated into mobile devices are making them more complex, but easier to use.

**Tailored devices and licences.**

Software packages are getting larger as more 'bells and whistles' are added. There was initially a problem about the disk space taken up by them. That problem diminished as disk capacities increased even as cost reduced.

The rising price of complex software packages was putting people off, as was the need for constant updates. The solutions need to suit both supplier and the user.

The supplier now puts his complete package on a single disc and a user will pay only for the elements that he wants to use. This keeps prices down. For additional elements the user pays a further fee

and the supplier simply issues a key to unlock the newly licensed components, thus saving on his supply costs.

The same sales model could apply to mobile device components – you buy the services you want, tailored to your needs with the option to activate other components later if you wish.

Updates can be automated, or, if preferred, you can use the 'cloud', where each time the software is used it is downloaded from the cloud in its most up-to-date form.

**Walled Gardens.** Powerful companies (eg AOL and Compuserve – remember them?) tried to 'wall-off' their territory and force people to pay for the content they provided.

They were defeated by sites like Netscape and Napster who provided access. Peter predicted that all attempts to build such 'walled gardens' will fail in turn because the public will not countenance them.

Technology today is the science fiction of just 60 years ago.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, November 12 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, 7.30pm to 9.30pm: 'Photo Editing – How to do it. What program to use.'

Visitors always welcome. See penarthcomputerclub.co.uk

**HOWARD DESMOND**

## Adult learners celebrate their success in Barry

**ADULT learners who have completed courses at centres in Barry and Penarth area were presented with certificates at Palmerton Community Learning Centre.**

The presentations were made by the Mayor of the Vale, Coun Margaret Wilkinson and consort, Jayne Norman. The Mayor praised the high standard of their work.

Certificates were presented to the learners who had achieved AGORED learning credits for a wide range of courses, including photography, IT, family history, counselling, languages and sign language. A number of new courses were added to the curriculum this year in the creative arts and textiles area including patchwork, dressmaking, crochet and jewellery.





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# WELCOME TO 'BIG SCHOOL'!

ON October 11,  
Barry  
Comprehensive  
School welcomed  
almost 600 year-5  
and year-6 boys to  
an action-packed  
day to introduce  
them to the chal-  
lenges and excite-  
ment of 'Big'  
school.

The visitors enjoyed  
making music with  
African drums, Samba,  
ukuleles, rock school  
and an introduction to  
music technology. A vis-  
iting author, Cathy Farr,  
and Mojo, her dog, led a  
writer's workshop,  
allowing students the  
opportunity to write and  
share first-rate stories.

ICT students fine-  
tuned their computer  
skills with Hallowe'en  
themed computer les-

sons. The year-6 stu-  
dents also produced  
some fine artwork and  
filmed and edited a  
short video. The climb-  
ing wall took centre  
stage in the sports hall,  
whilst the gym resound-  
ed and resonated to the  
sound of dodgeball.

The science depart-  
ment took over the  
school hall to investi-  
gate different sources of  
energy, with great ener-  
gy, through demonstra-  
tions, hands-on experi-  
ments and even a hover-  
craft.

Mr McNamara com-  
mented that there was  
real buzz about the ses-  
sions and thanked  
everyone, sixth formers,  
key stage 3 volunteers  
and all the staff  
involved, for contribut-  
ing to a really successful  
day.

AC

## Mayor chips in!

**MORE than 45 Friends and Neighbours  
held their fish and chip lunch at Beryl  
Road Pioneer Hall, and were joined by Vale  
Mayor Coun Margaret Wilkinson and con-  
sort.**

A fashion show was then held by Bonmarche when  
three members modelled outfits.

Members are now looking forward to their visit to  
Barry Memorial Hall, trip to Swansea Christmas  
market, the Christmas party and a visit to the New  
Theatre pantomime in the new year.



ABOVE: Riding the hovercraft.



Making music with ukuleles.

## NEWS FROM THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL



Joining in with Rock School.

## Help with home heating

NEST, the Welsh Government scheme, is  
urging householders who find it hard to  
heat their homes to contact them during  
National Energy Saving Week (October  
21 - 27).

Nest offers home improvements at no cost to  
applicants who own or privately rent their home, live  
in a property that is very energy inefficient and  
receive a means-tested state benefit.

Following a home visit to check eligibility, a Nest  
assessor will recommend a tailored package of  
improvements to help make the property warmer and  
save money on energy bills.

These may include a new central heating boiler,  
loft insulation, cavity wall or solid wall insulation, or  
renewable energy technologies.



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- Mid Terraced
- West End Location
- Two Bedrooms
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Ideal For First Time Buyers
- No Forward Chain

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**Vale Street**

**NEW**

- Traditional Mid Terraced
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- Loft Room
- Immaculate Condition
- Ideal For First Time Buyers
- Viewing Recommended

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**Mallory Close, St Athan**

**NEW**

- Modern End Link
- Two Double Bedrooms
- 20ft Conservatory
- Fitted Kitchen
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- No Forward Chain

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- Large Semi Detached
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Views Of The Vale
- 80ft Rear Garden
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**Michaelston Close**

**NEW**

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- Two Double Bedrooms
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Ideal Investment
- Gas Central Heating
- No Chain

**£82,500**

**Beryl Road**

**NEW PRICE**

- Traditional Mid Terraced
- Close To Town Centre
- Three Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Ideal For First Time Buyer
- No Forward Chain

**£122,500**

**Glan-y-Mor, Barry, Waterfront**

**NEW PRICE**

- 5th Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Master En-Suite
- Private Balcony
- Extensive Views
- Apartment with Lift

**£125,000**

**Maes Y Cwm Street**

**NEW PRICE**

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- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Kitchen Breakfast Room
- Close To Town Centre
- Spacious Living Accommodation
- No Forward Chain

**£120,000**

**Gladstone Garden Court, Buttrills Rd**

- Modern Ground Floor Flat
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Close To Town Centre
- Fitted Kitchen
- Ideal Retirement
- No Forward Chain

**£107,950**

**Glenbrook Drive**

- Modern End Link
- Two Bedrooms
- Garage and Garden
- Gas Central Heating
- Ideal First Time Buyers
- No Forward Chain

**£112,950**

**Phyllis Street**

- Traditional Mid Terraced
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- Ideal For First Time Buyer
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**£112,500** D63



**Claude Road, Barry**  
3 Good Size Bedrooms  
Very Well Presented Throughout  
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**Springfield Rise, Barry**  
3 Bedrooms & All In Very Good Order  
Conservatory & Kitchen/Breakfast Rm  
Generous Rear Garden & Outhouses

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**Rhodfa Sweldon, Barry**  
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**19.10.13**  
*Lots of love from all your family, friends & all at the*  
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## House Clearance

**ANDREW WILLIAMS**  
**HOUSE CLEARANCES**  
**FULL/PART**  
 Over 20 years experience.  
 Sympathetic handling of deceased estates, used by estate agents and solicitors.  
 01446 409266  
 07885 251742

## Wanted

**SUTTONS**  
**Auto Salvage**  
 £125 minimum paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles.  
 Also body shells and scrap metals collected.  
 No wheels, no problem.  
 02920 597887  
 07971 648596

## Family Notices

JONES  
Marion

Peacefully on October 17, aged 85 years, Marion of Rhosce, beloved wife of the late Denzil Edward (formerly of Onslow Terrace, Brynmynyn), dearly loved mother of Meryl and Judith, mother-in-law of Royden, much loved grandmother of Nicholas and Kathryn and their partners Kath and Paul, great-grandmother of Joe, Sophia and Jess.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Wednesday October 30, service and cremation 2.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

## GWILLIAM

## Richard John Vernon

Suddenly, on October 16 at his home in Rhosce, John aged 97 years (John the Milk), beloved husband of Mary, dearly loved father of Susan, Christopher and Jane, much loved grandfather of Max.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Monday October 28, service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to The Royal British Legion c/o J James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

JASPER  
Phyllis Joan

Peacefully on Monday, 21st October, Phyllis, much loved wife of the late George, loving mother of David, adored grandmother and great grandmother. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral Service and interment at St Dochdwy Church, Llandough, Cowbridge on Monday, 28th October 2013 at 11am. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

WESTCOTT  
Ken

Peacefully on October 19th, Ken, much loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral Service at Llanblethian Church on Tuesday, October 29th at 12.15pm followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

HANCOCK  
Glenville (Rella)

The family would like to thank relatives and friends for all their kind messages of condolence, flowers and attendance at Rella's funeral. We would also like to thank the Boverton Castle for their hospitality.

Also, thanks to John James Funeral Directors for their support, and to Joy who conducted the service at St Iltyd's Church.

BRUTEN  
Paul

Suddenly, on October 17 at his home in Llantwit Major, Paul, loving father of Taylor and Megan, beloved son of Eileen and Brian, much loved brother of Mark and the late Stephen.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Friday, November 1, Service and Cremation 2.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Macmillan Nurses c/o J. James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

## Funeral Directors

**W. A. Brown & Son**  
 Funeral Directors  
 Contactable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
 • Funeral pre-payment plans  
 • Memorial masonry  
 Pembroke House,  
 College Street, Llantwit Major  
 01446 792 489

## Est 1946 - 24 hour Service

**W. H. PREENE & SON**  
 INDEPENDENT  
 FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST  
 PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLAN AVAILABLE

54 MAIN STREET, CADOXTON  
 Telephone 01446 420520

## Cadoxton Funeral Home

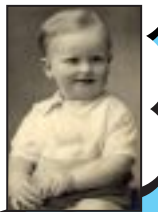
## Birthdays

## Happy Birthday

**EILEEN BENNETT**  
 on 25th October  
*Love & Best Wishes from all your friends at The GEM*

Happy 70th Birthday Dad  
Glyn Pritchard

on October 29th  
*All our love*  
 Angharad, Phil & Starley xxx



## Property

**TO LET**  
**EAST END BARRY**  
 2 Bedroom House  
 Bonds & references.  
 £575 ono (pcm)  
 Tel: 07805 364518

[barry-today.co.uk](http://barry-today.co.uk)  
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[porthcawl-today.co.uk](http://porthcawl-today.co.uk)  
[bridgend-today.co.uk](http://bridgend-today.co.uk)

**The GEM**  
 News, Sport, Letters,  
 Features, What's On,  
 Jobs, Motors....



## Articles For Sale

## Motors For Sale

# Masquerade ball raises £550 for two children's charities



Laura Anton.



ABOVE: Fred Castelbranco, Sihan Jin, Sasiya Supprakit and Eric Chia.



ABOVE: Cari Davies, Kate Russell and Catrin Lewis.



ABOVE: Joanna Olszanska and Eric Chia.



ABOVE: Mike Curtin and Lucy Williams.



ABOVE: Ishty Akhtar and Taz Akhtar.

**Gas Fire**  
Matchless Heat  
Machine. Glass front with  
brass fire selfrim and  
coals. Excellent condi-  
tion, complete with man-  
ual and user instructions.  
Buyer to collect £50 ono  
Tel 01446 772 795

**Lovely  
collection of  
Paintings,  
Frames, Mirrors  
and other  
quality curios.**  
Tel 01446 796329

**Jaguar X Type  
2 Litre Diesel**  
50k Service History, tax'd  
& mot'd to 2014. Alarmed.  
CD. Alloys. Excellent  
Condition.  
£5,199 ovno  
07873 754282

**Vauxhall Corsa  
Energy 16v**  
1 lady owner,  
excellent condition,  
60k approx. CD, e/w,  
a/c, alloy wheels,  
MOT'd to 2014, taxed.  
£2,000  
02920 707901

**Multiyork Suite  
3 seater settee  
plus two chairs**  
Classic style with high  
back, duck feather  
cushions and valance.  
Cream/beige (neutral  
colour). Removable cov-  
ers. Good condition.  
£199  
01446 412184

**Freshwater &  
Seawater Tackle  
For Sale**  
All monies to  
Macmillan Cancer  
Nurses.  
Tel 01446 793873

**53 Plate Vauxhall  
Corsa 1.2 SXi**  
Black, MOT, 100k miles,  
VGC, refurbished alloys  
(Mechanic owned).  
£1,350  
07834 987617  
01446 772497

**SUZUKI  
MOPED  
FZ50 1986**  
Tax/MOT,  
3,973 miles, VGC.  
£385  
01656 646925

Brand new  
(Bought Sept 2013)  
**Epson Printer  
XOP 405**  
with scanner, photo print-  
ing, 4 cartridges, USB  
cable. Poor eyesight rea-  
son for sale.  
£50  
01446 711793  
(any time)

**Acer  
Computer**  
With Epson printer  
(incl inks), keyboard and  
15 inch monitor. Including  
mouse and cables.  
£250  
Bargain (Unused)  
Tel 01656 662473

**01 LDV Convoy  
400 Diesel Van**  
Semi High-Top, has been  
used as a camper. 55k,  
MOT May 2014,  
exceptionally clean,  
tow bar.  
£1,350  
07530 200746

**52 VW  
Passat 2.0**  
89k, pale blue  
metallic, 12 month  
MOT, CD, E/W.  
£1,300  
07990 823541

**Hulsta Top  
Point 4000  
Mattress**  
Size 200 x 90.  
High Quality. Under 3  
years. Buyer to collect.  
£150 ono  
01446 760726

**Oak TV Unit &  
2 Oak Lamp  
tables**  
£180 ono  
01656 750653

**CLH Trailer**  
8 x 5ft twin axle, braked,  
fully galvanised, including  
loading ramps. Upgraded  
LED electrics and lights.  
Excellent condition.  
£1,500  
01446 772139

**Advertise  
your car  
for sale  
£20 +vat  
for 2 weeks**

**Ducal pine furniture  
coffee table - £20  
TV/video cabinet -  
£30  
Dining room table, 4  
chairs & 2 carvers -  
£100  
Welsh display  
dresser - £200  
Nest of tables - £30  
Stereo unit - £30  
Telephone unit - £30**  
Extremely good condition  
07710 643697  
01446 751488  
(After 4pm)

**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL  
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG  
Planning (Listed Buildings and  
Conservation Areas) Act, 1990  
Town and Country Planning  
(Development Management Procedure)  
(Wales) Order 2012**

**Development that may affect a Conservation Area/  
Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth**

Application No./  
Rhif y cais: 2013/00966/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Demolition of Church Cottage and development of 2  
No. 3 bed houses and 1 No. 4 bed house  
Church Cottage, Aberthin Lane, Aberthin  
Location:/Lleoliad: Affecting the Aberthin Conservation Area  
Conservation Area:/  
Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./  
Rhif y cais: 2013/00968/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: The removal of the first floor and roof with the erection  
of a replacement floor, roof including ground floor  
alterations.  
12A, Plymouth Road, Penarth  
Location:/Lleoliad: Affecting the Penarth Conservation Area  
Conservation Area:/  
Ardal Gadwraeth

**Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig**

Application No./  
Rhif y cais: 2013/00942/LBC  
Proposal/Cynnig: Replace failing concrete render, maintaining original  
appearance of property. Apply exterior grade paint in a  
shade of white in keeping (retrospective). New front  
gate and metal archway, plus pebbled area to replace  
front lawn.  
5, Pwll Y Myn Crescent, Peterston Super Ely  
Location:/Lleoliad: Grade II  
Listed Building:/  
Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./  
Rhif y cais: 2013/00967/LBC  
Proposal/Cynnig: Replacement of single glazed panes with double  
glazed sealed units within existing wooden frames  
Manor Cottage, St. Hilary  
Location:/Lleoliad: Grade II  
Listed Building:/  
Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./  
Rhif y cais: 2013/00972/LBC  
Proposal/Cynnig: Construction of a spiral cellar under dining room in  
the ground floor of a Grade II Listed building  
22, Victoria Road, Penarth  
Location:/Lleoliad: Grade II  
Listed Building:/  
Adeilad Rhestredig

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below,  
or via <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir  
isod, neu drwy <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 24 October, 2013

M. Goldsworthy  
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,  
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

**RESULTS from  
Sully bridge club,  
Monday, October  
14:**

**North/South** - 1st  
Peter Millar/Mark  
Roderick 68.08;  
2nd Mary  
Blackwell/Peter  
Blackwell 62.81; 3rd  
Pat Evans/Jane Greatrex  
61.28.

**East/West** - 1st  
Anne Johns/John  
Pikoulis 64.67;  
2nd Betty Thorne/Sheila  
Griffiths 60.45; 3rd Bill  
Leyburn/Lynne Leyburn  
59.15.

**OCTOBER 16:**  
**North/South** - 1st Ev  
Kerslake/Vernon Pearne  
62.50; 2nd Hilary

Pickard/Margaret Taylor  
59.28; 3rd Pat  
Evans/Roger Cradick  
57.77.

**East/West** - 1st Lona  
Thomas/Joy Secular  
61.74; 2nd Wendy  
Stott/Frank Stott  
60.04; 3rd Bunty  
Wiseman/Anne Johns  
59.28. **EK**

**Local  
players  
make  
progress**

**TALENTED ama-  
teur footballers from  
the area have been  
shortlisted in a  
nationwide competi-  
tion to win a profes-  
sional playing con-  
tract with a Football  
League club.**

Progressing from the  
area are defender Ryan  
Batley, aged 21 from  
Bridgend, midfielder  
Anthony Gent, aged 20  
from Barry, and winger  
Roberto Freitas, aged 20  
amongst others.

For the first time  
since Win A Pro  
Contract was launched  
in 2010, there are now  
three professional con-  
tracts on offer as  
Wycombe Wanderers join  
Samsung's existing part-  
nerships with Swindon  
Town and Leyton Orient.

Hopefuls will be test-  
ed at regional skills tri-  
als and 11-a-side match-  
es as they bid to kick-  
start their dreams of  
becoming a professional  
footballer.

To follow the competi-  
tion, please go to  
[www.facebook.com/sam-  
sungfootball](http://www.facebook.com/sam-<br/>sungfootball).

## Public Notice

### GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Viggers Bros Ltd of  
Llys-Y-Coed,  
Llanboidy, Whitland,  
Carmarthenshire  
SA34 0ET is applying  
to change an existing  
licence as follows:

To add an operating  
centre to keep 2 goods  
vehicles and 3 trailers  
at 52/53 Village Farm  
Road, Village Farm  
Industrial Estate, Pyle,  
Bridgend CF33 6BN.

Owners or occupiers of  
land (including  
buildings) near the  
operating centre(s) who  
believe that their use or  
enjoyment of that land  
would be affected,  
should make written  
representations to the  
Traffic Commissioner at  
Hillcrest House, 386  
Harehills Lane, Leeds,  
LS9 6NF, stating their  
reasons, within 21 days  
of this notice.  
Representors must at  
the same time send a  
copy of their  
representations to the  
applicant at the address  
given at the top of this  
notice. A Guide to  
Making Representations  
is available from the  
Traffic Commissioner's  
office.

barry-today.co.uk  
cowbridge-today.co.uk  
llantwit-major-today.co.uk  
porthcawl-today.co.uk  
bridgend-today.co.uk



# BARRY YACHT CLUB SAILS TO WIN IN WESTON BAY PLATE TEAM RACE EVENT

**BARRY** Yacht Club won the Weston Bay Plate trophy on October 19 - a trophy inaugurated by the Weston Bay Yacht Club in 1971 for competition between teams of monohull boats from a group of clubs situated in the upper reaches of the Bristol Channel.

Barry was the first winner of this trophy in 1971 and has regularly repeated this success over the years.

The Saturday race saw teams from Weston Bay YC and Portishead Cruising Club competing with Barry over a course which took them down channel to the cooling tower off Aberthaw Power Station, and then across to a buoy marking the western end of the Culver sandbank in mid channel.

The last leg of the course brought them back to Barry via the Welsh Water buoy off Cold Knap Point. The boats being of various sizes and performance, a system of handicapping is used, which involves the calculation of a corrected time for each boat - based upon its elapsed time and handicap figure.

Ten boats started the race at 10am off Jacksons Bay with the ebb tide running strongly and a southerly wind of about force 3.

The breeze dropped

away as the boats approached the first turning mark at Aberthaw and several vessels were swept outside the tower as the wind died more or less completely.

Some boats had to retire at this stage. In almost totally calm conditions, the remaining boats were at the mercy of the strong tide and many were swept well to the west.

After an hour or so, the breeze returned from the south and with a gradually weakening tide the boats were able to sail towards the West Culver Buoy.

After about half of the boats had rounded the buoy, the whole fleet was hit by a very severe rain squall.

This produced a torrential downpour and the wind increased to a level which was assessed at about force 7 or 8.

The boats had to let their sails fly for the 10 minutes or so that it lasted and the visibility was down to some 20 or 30 metres as the boats continued to travel at speed despite the sails not being sheeted in.

Following the squall, the crews regained control and continued with their race. The faster leading boats were able to reach the next turning mark off Cold Knap, before the wind died away again, leaving most of the fleet drifting up channel with the now flooding tide.

Once again, the calm



Presentation of the trophy.

lasted an hour or so and whereas the leading boats were able to run up to the finish with the tide, the remainder of the fleet were in grave danger of being pushed too far to the east to make any headway towards the Welsh Water buoy against the strengthening flood tide.

Fortunately, the wind came back again quite strongly from the south-west and all the remaining boats were able to complete the course, albeit with some penalty for being more or less becalmed for so long.

The leading boat finished the course in just under 4.75 hours, whilst the last boat took almost seven hours.

The competitors had enjoyed a quite spectacular day afloat with the wind ranging from flat calm to force 7 or 8 and

with the weather changing from heavy overcast and tropical rainfall to bright sunshine and clear blue skies. Fortunately it was never particularly cold because of the direction of the prevailing wind.

All the crews had a severe dousing in the squall and encountered light rain at other times. Full oilskins were certainly the order of the day until the sun came out towards the end of the race.

The best three boats of the Barry team finished first, third and fourth which enabled them to win convincingly.

The trophy was presented to the team by the Barry YC commodore, John Webb, during festivities at the club on Saturday evening.

**BRIAN DOTCHON**

## Barrivale results

**LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club, October 15 - session 2 of the men's and ladies' pairs:**

1st Denis Mottram & Mick Green 59.72 per cent; 2nd Huw Thomas & Alan Jones 58.73; 3rd Mark Roderick & Mike Best 53.97. Helen Jordan & Judith Owen won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

**MB**

## Rhose are brought back down to earth

THE 'cosmic' display a week earlier by Rhose in the Welsh Cup in Swansea was a dim and distant memory following this defeat as they returned to Welsh League action against Llanwrn at Jenner Park on Saturday.

The opening minutes of the match were played in near monsoon conditions as both teams struggled with slippery conditions and surface water holding up the ball.

Rhose, it had to be said, coped well and were far the better side for the first 30 minutes during which a quick break and clinical finish from 18 yards by Nicky Davison saw the Vale side go a goal up within 12 minutes.

However, as conditions improved, the Newport side, who currently top Division 3, started to dominate proceedings and they found themselves

2-1 up going into halftime, their second goal coming from an innocuous breakthrough following a Rhose corner at the opposite end!

Llanwrn's third goal, resulting from a free kick on the edge of the Rhose penalty area, was taken quickly and passed into an empty net while the home side were organising their defensive wall.

Rhose now find themselves in the lower reaches of Division 3 and will need to improve considerably, and show some improved consistency, if they are to climb out of trouble.

The Vale side are back in cup action this weekend, on Saturday, with the visit of Tredegar Athletic to Jenner Park in the FAW Trophy third round, kick-off 2pm.

**AP**

## Barry Town United host 'spook-tacular'!

**BARRY TOWN United will host a half-term**

**Halloween spook-tacular on Tuesday, October 29 at Jenner Park, as the Town face the frighteningly fearsome Abertillery Bluebirds (7.45pm kick-off).**

On that night, everyone attending in Halloween costume will receive a ticket to a half-time draw, with a

pair of new Barry replica shirts among the fan-tastic prizes on offer.

A gaggle of ghoulish goody bags will also be up for grabs, among other treats, making the match a hair-raising highlight of the Barry half-term holiday.

As for tricks, manager Gavin Chesterfield will hope his players have enough of them to see off Abertillery and ensure there is no horror show on the pitch this Halloween!

Meanwhile, supporters can expect a special Halloween-themed stadium, with club volunteers getting in on the act and a host of spooky songs taking over the tannoy system.

The fan-owned community club is hoping to make it an evening of freaky fun for all the family, and will be welcoming children free of charge when accompanied by a paying adult.

Entry on the night is £4 (adults), £3 (OAP/student) and £2 (unaccompanied children), via both the Gladstone Road and Barry Road turnstiles.

Last Saturday, it was all focus and no hocus pocus, as Barry extended their unbeaten league record with a 3-1 win at Tredegar Athletic.

Traditionally a difficult trip, the Town raced into the lead after 10 minutes, when striker Ryan Jenkins popped up at the back post to head in a teasing cross from the right.

Fellow forward TJ Nagi then doubled Barry's advantage on the half hour, finishing with his trademark composure to delight the large and vocal travelling Barry contingent.

On 61 minutes, Tredegar found their way back into the match, awakening memories of their League Cup comeback last season that eventually saw off Chesterfield's side.

However, there would be no such repeat this year, with Jenkins scoring his second and Barry's third with 12 minutes remaining to secure the all-important three points.

As a result of the win, Barry stay in third with 19 points from 7 games, leaving the Town four points off leaders Risca, with three games in hand.

Second-placed Llanwrn are the only other unbeaten side, and stand a point and a match ahead of Barry.

This Saturday, weather permitting, Barry will make the short, ten-mile journey east to Llantwit Major for a hotly-anticipated local derby.

Llantwit have started their campaign well, and currently sit in fifth place, with four wins and two draws from their opening seven fixtures.

**AC**

## Brynhill golf club results

**RECENT results from Brynhill Golf Club:**

Consolation Cup, October 20 - winner Colin Lewis 68 (back nine = 33&1/2), runner-up Gareth Gurner 68 (back nine = 36). Gross: Scott Bowman (74); number of competitors: 76; competition standard scratch: 72.

**CS**

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PORTKERRY ROAD (PART) AND PORT ROAD (PART) RHOOSE) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2013

1. On 24th October 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Portkerry Road (Part) and Port Road (Part) Rhose) (30mph Speed Restriction) (Temporary) Order" 2013.

### SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour between the locations specified in Schedule 2 below:

This order will override in part the existing speed restriction order known as "THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PORT ROAD (WEST) A4226 BARRY EXTENSION TO 40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND NEW 50MPH SPEED RESTRICTION ORDER 2008)", while the appropriate signs are in place.

### SCHEDULE 2

**Location:** The section of Portkerry Road from its junction with Port Road (at grid 307241 167389) in a south easterly direction to a point 80m southeast of the junction at grid 307701 166914 adjacent to a property known as The Stables.  
The section of Port Road from its junction with Portkerry Road (at grid 307241 167389) in a north easterly direction for a distance of 125m.

**Reason:** To allow the construction of a shared footway/cycleway on the north eastern side of Portkerry Road

**Duration:** From 06.00hrs on Monday 28 October 2013, for a maximum period of 18 months. (It is expected that this work will take around 8 weeks to complete).

Dated this 24th day of October 2013

M. E. Punter,  
Director of Visible Services & Housing  
Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



## CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2013 GORCHYMYN (CYFYNGU CYFLYMDRA I 30 M.Y.A.) (DROS DRO) (RHAN O PORTKERRY ROAD A RHAN O PORT ROAD, Y RHWS)

1. Ar 24 Hydref 2013, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14, Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig), Orchymyn y mae ei effaith gyffredinol wedi'i disgrifio yn yr Atodlenni isod.

2. Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel "Gorchymyn (Cyfyngu Cyflymdra i 30m.y.a.) (Dros Dro) (Rhan o Portkerry Road a rhan o Port Road, Y Rhws) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2013.

### ATODLEN 1

Ni fydd neb yn gyrru nac yn caniatáu i neb arall yrru modur yn gyflymach na 30 milltir yr awr yn y manau a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod:

Bydd y gorchymyn hwn yn rhannol ddrymu'r gorchymyn cyfyngu cyflymdra presennol a adwaenir fel "GORCHYMYN YMESTYN CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDRA 40 M.Y.A. A GORCHYMYN CYFYNGU CYFLYMDRA NEWYDD 50 M.Y.A. PRIFFORDD A4226 (GORLLEWIN PORT ROAD), Y BARRI, CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2008)", tra bod yr arwyddion priodol yn eu lle.

### ATODLEN 2

**Lleoliad:** Darn o Portkerry Road rhwng y gyffordd â Port Road (wrth gyfeirnod grid 307241 167389) a man (wrth gyfeirnod 307701 166914) sy'n 80 metr i'r de ddwyrain o'r gyffordd honno, ger eiddo a adwaenir fel 'The Stables'.

Darn o Port Road rhwng y gyffordd â Portkerry Road (wrth gyfeirnod grid 307241 167389) a man sy'n 125 metr i'r gogledd ddwyrain o'r gyffordd honno.

**Rheswm:** Darparu llwybr troed/seiclo cyfun ar ochr ogledd-ddwyrainiol Portkerry Road.

**Cyfnod:** O 06.00 ar ddydd Llun 28 Hydref 2013 ymlaen am 18 mis yn unig. (Mae disgwyl i'r gwaith gymryd rhyw 8 wythnos i'w gwblhau).

Dyddiedig 24 Hydref 2013.

M. E. Punter,  
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,  
Canolfan yr Alpau, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.





## COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SPORTS ROUND-UP

## Pupils take part in cross-country event

**THE Girls Cardiff and Vale Cross Country League 1 race took place on a dry evening at Bryn Hafren School.**

There were some outstanding achievements by the Cowbridge pupils. In the first race, the year 8 & 9 combined race, Jessica Wadey (year 8), who had just returned to school after competing for Wales in life guarding in Ireland (Wales finished first), came third with new pupil to the school, Molly Rees (year 9), coming fifth.

Year 8 pupils Meriel Clode came 10th, Emily Jenkins (year 8) came 11th, and year 9 pupil Selina Radcliffe came 15th, with Aimee Jones coming 26th to complete the A team. The team came first out of 21 teams.

Other runners were: year 8 - Georgia Armitage 27th, Mali Howell 32nd, Rachel Anstey 49th, Year 9 - Sophie Oddy 61st, Jasmine Emery 63rd, Alice Pritchard 97th. Year 8 - India Maurice 98th and year 9 Lowri Morgan 111th; there were 187 girls competing.

In the year 7 race the girls were all nervous for their first race for the school and all did extremely well.

Rebecca Murray came 10th, Charlotte Tudor 11th, Sophie Hawkins 12th, Alice Coe 16th, Eve Mordecai 32nd, Eve Demmer 37th, Ffion Hughes 38th, Eve Bird 47th, Beth Edwards 48th, Ella Jones 91st and Lauren Light 92nd. There were 147 girls competing; the first six girls for Cowbridge made up the A team who came first team.

In the year 10-13 races a few usual cross country runners were missing through injury or other commitments; however the girls who ran were outstanding. Year 10 pupil Cerys Bradshaw came 5th, Nadine James of year 11 came 9th, Rebecca Thomas of year 11 20th, Jemma Viney of year 10 23rd, Brooke Langton-Cryer of year 11 31st, Miriam Bennett of year 13 24th and Alice Tudor of year 11 38th. There were 58 girls competing, and the team came third overall.

A great effort by all the cross country runners. **The girl's South Wales Cross Country Championships was held at Trelai Park on October 8 and the Cowbridge team once again were very successful.**

The year 7 and 8 girls competed together; Jessica Wadey, year 8, was our first finisher coming in 5th place;

next was Meriel Clode year 8 - 17th, Emily Jenkins year 8 - 19th, Georgia Armitage year 8 - 23rd, Aimee Jones year 8 - 33rd. The first year 7 girl was Sophie Hawkins - 47th.

Other results: Alice Coe year 7 - 52nd, Rachel Anstey year 8 - 70th, Eve Bird year 7 - 91st, Eve Demmer year 7 - 92nd, Eve Mordecai year 7 - 109th, Charlotte Tudor year 7 - 110th, Abigail Leigh-Cooke year 7 - 130th, Ffion Hughes year 7 - 135th and Ella K Jones 183rd out of 350 finishers. The first four girls made up the A team who came first and the B team came first.

In the year 9 and 10 race, Seren Allin of year 10 came in ninth place after competing for Great Britain in the Biathlon World Championships in Cyprus where she came 20th, an outstanding result for Seren.

Cerys Bradshaw was next home in 10th followed by Genevieve Kirk (11th) and Molly Rees (20th) to complete the A team who came in first place. Other results: Selena Radcliffe 26th, Jemma Viney 35th, Sophie Oddy 60th, Lowri Morgan 66th, Libby Jarvis 75th, Alice Pritchard 79th and Megan Roberts 80th; there were 167 competitors.

In the year 11-13 race Millie Green was first over the line for Cowbridge in 15th, followed by Nadine Jones 16th, Rebecca Thomas 21st, Miriam Bennett 28th and Brooke Langton-Cryer 38th. The team came second and there were 49 competitors - well done to all runners.

**On October 14, the Cowbridge year 7 football team played St Richard Gwyn Comprehensive School. With this being their first competitive match together, the boys had to quickly gel if they were going to win the match.**

Cowbridge started the match well, and as soon as the first whistle was blown, they looked dangerous. William Marsden and Ed Thomas were causing the defence trouble straight away with some excellent runs down the flanks.

After hitting the post twice in as many minutes, Charlie Carr and Matt Oddy were beginning to wonder whether it was just going to be one of those days.

However, the first goal came from a superb run up the wing from Will Marsden, who put a dangerous cross into the box, which needed to be dealt with. Unfortunately for the St Richard Gwyn central



The year 7 football team.

defender, the ball was turned into his own net. After this, the floodgates opened!

The second goal came about from some excellent quick feet from Matt Oddy, to supply Charlie Carr with a one on one, which he expertly converted to double the score. Not giving the scoreboard anytime to rest, the third goal came in quick succession.

Jake Thomas worked his magic in the middle of the park, to see Charlie free with the ball in the attacking third. As expected, Charlie showed his class and slotted the ball past the goalkeeper for his second goal.

With Matthew Dewhurst, Jamie Evans, Iestyn Galton and Jack Tudor holding strong in defence, St Richard Gwyn were finding it hard to break down their defensive unit. From a goalkick, Will Marsden picked up the ball just inside the halfway line.

Seeing the keeper was out of position, Will unleashed a David Beckham type shot, which bent around the keeper for a fantastic goal!

Not long after this goal, the first half drew to a close, but not before Charlie Carr secured his hat trick and Cowbridge were 5-0 up.

St Richard Gwyn came out at the start of the second half all guns blazing. They were starting to string a number of passes together, and were finding it easier to find space and created a few chances, although Charles was more than equal to each effort.

After a few minutes of settling back into their game, Cowbridge continued to play the exciting football they had finished the first half playing. Will O'Connor was working hard in the centre of the pitch, alongside Jake Thomas, to secure the majority of possession and territory.

Charlie Carr's last involvement was to nutmeg the goalkeeper for fourth goal, which capped off an excellent performance. A few substitutions were made, and Jamie Owen,

Sam Williams, Tomos Apjohn-Williams and Dan Stancombe came on, and continued the high standard of play which the previous boys had set.

In the second half, Cowbridge had a number of chances, but just could not convert them. Towards the end of the match, Matt Oddy finally had his reward for his hard work, and turned in an excellent and selfless cross from Will O'Connor to make the score 7-0 to Cowbridge, which is how the game ended.

Player of the match: Charlie Carr and Jake Thomas.

**The year 10 hockey team played their first match against Howells at Llewellyn.**

The girls played very confidently in a frustrating game where we had several shots at goal but failed to score. We dominated the Howells team in both halves of the game, with excellent passing and dodging from Jemma Viney, Genevieve Kirk and Ella Jones.

With the combination of Molly Price and Megan Duncombe in defence, the Howells attacking players could not break through to take a shot at our goals, the final score 0-0. Player of the match was Jemma Viney.

The Year 10 hockey team then played in the Preliminary County hockey tournament against Howells and Plasmawr. Four other preliminary tournaments were also taking place in other schools with the winning teams going through to the finals.

Cowbridge played Howells first. Cowbridge attacked from the first play of the match and Seren Allin scored twice in the first half. Howells struggled to get in Cowbridge's defending 25. In the second half Ella Jones popped the ball straight into the goal to make the final score 3-0.

Cowbridge then played Plasmawr. Jemma Viney scored in the first half and Plasmawr scored in the second half making the final score 1-1.

Plasmawr then beat Howells 1-0, meaning Cowbridge went through to the finals.

The team were Hetty Bredd (gk), Rhianon Hill, Molly Price, Megan Duncombe, Sophia Harpin, Genevieve Kirk, Sian Smith, Jemma Viney, Seren Allin, Katie Johnson, Ella Jones and Izobel Gambling.

**The Year 8 A and B netball team played Bro Morgannwg.**

The A team had a very convincing 12-3 win. Jordan Meek was player of the match, and other players included: Megan Hodgson, Sophie Rees, Meriel Clode, Trian Evans, Elin Swallow, Sarah Jones and Mali Howell.

The B team also won winning 9-1. Charlie Hamilton was player of the match. For a number of girls it was their first time representing the school at netball: Ffion McNamee, Charlie Hamilton, Catherine Harrison, Alys Bebb and Paige Fox.

Also in this team were Olivia Mitchell, Molly Ward Tossell and Ffion Langston.

On Tuesday, October 15, 11 year 9 pupils took part in the annual Cardiff and The Vale B team tournament. The girls had a great start, beating Mary Immaculate 5-0 and Whitchurch 1-0. Next came a very strong Glantaf team; we were unable to convert play to goals and lost 5-1.

We went on to lose two further games against Howells and Fitzalan, and drew two games against Llantwit and Plasmawr. We then found our feet and were successful in beating Llanishen 3-0. This meant we would play Radyr in a playoff match which ended 1-1. We finished joint 11th out of 18 schools.

All of the girls played exceptionally well. The players of the tournament were Carys Barwell and Pippa Jolles. At the end of the day the team were fortunate enough to meet Welsh netball player and Celtic Dragon Nia Jones.

The year 9 'B' team won 6-1 in a very convincing match.



The year 9 netball team.

Cowbridge was dominant throughout the game with excellent shooting from Sophie Rees. Player of the match was Sophie Rees.

The year 9 'A' team had a tougher match with Cowbridge leading 4-3 at halftime. A winning combination of good centre passages and interceptions by Selina Radcliffe and Annabel Hegarty (GA) let us match each of Bro Morgannwg's goals with a goal from Cowbridge. A very close game right to the last seconds, we won 6-7 - well done.

The Year 7 netball team embarked upon their first match against St Richard Gwyn. The A team were leading by two goals at halftime after some superb interceptions by Beth Edwards.

However, silly errors and a disallowed goal in the second half meant that we lost 6-5 in the final seconds of the game. Player of the match went to Beth Edwards.

The B team won convincingly, 6-0. All girls played exceptionally well, Ffion Hughes was player of the match. The girls are now looking forward to their game against Stanwell School.

**The year 7 rugby team produced an impressive win against Bro Morgannwg, in only their second game together as a comprehensive school team. After a hard fought friendly against Barry Comprehensive School, Cowbridge had a number of things to work on to ensure another victory.**

Cowbridge started extremely well, with excellent movement and passing skills out wide, which stretched and disorganised the Bro Morgannwg defence.

After a number of well executed passes in the first five minutes, Cowbridge ran in their first try of the match, with Benji Williams sprinting over the line. The try was expertly converted by Jamie Howells.

With the first try of the match bagged, Cowbridge were looking to extended their lead as soon as possible,

but were being prevented in doing so by some dogged work at the breakdown by the Bro Morgannwg forwards.

After a period of pressure from the opposition, Cowbridge turned over the ball in their own half, and quickly seized upon the opportunity by spreading the ball wide to outside centre Edward Thomas.

There was nowhere to go, but somehow Edward managed to duck and dive his way from well inside his own half to over the try line with some outstanding foot work. Again the try was expertly converted by Jamie Howells.

Not giving the scoreboards anytime to relax, Jamie Howells then added a try of his own, opening up the defence for a well taken try. The halftime whistle went and Cowbridge were leading 21 - 0.

As soon as the second half started Bro Morgannwg had the bit between their teeth, and were putting together a number of phases and looking dangerous.

The Cowbridge defence were stayed strong and neutralised anything the Bro Morgannwg attack had to throw at them. A number of substitutions were then made by both sides, and it was excellent to see the high standards exhibited by both squads.

After a second half of nip and tuck rugby, Bro Morgannwg were rewarded for their determination, running in an interception try. The final whistle blew, and the game finished 21-7 to Cowbridge!

Well done year 7, you are all developing as individuals, but more importantly as a team. From the first game you have all progressed so much, and it is exciting to see what the future holds. Man of the match: Iestyn Galton. **The first game back this season for the year 8 rugby team was against Bro Morgannwg.**

With results so close between the two teams last season, the game promised to be tough start to year 8 for the boys. From the off the

Cowbridge boys looked strong, stringing some good attacking phases together; when defending they heaped on the pressure stopping Bro from building too much momentum early on.

The excellent start paid dividends within the first 15 minutes with Sam Green running in two quick tries, showing both skill and strength to cross the line. Ioan Williams slotted the first conversion but narrowly missed the second.

Cowbridge continued with the same pressure throughout the first half and were rewarded with a third try just before halftime courtesy of Rowan Allin and an overall good string of passes by the backs to exploit an overlap on the wing. The half time score 17-0 Cowbridge.

The second half saw a slow start from Cowbridge. With five changes being made by the team at halftime, Bro Morgannwg exploited this by taking the lion's share of the possession and spending a decent amount of time in the Cowbridge 22.

Both teams got plenty of practice in both attack and defence thanks to some superb counter rucking and ball stealing from both sides. The back row of Jack Dixon, Ben Jones and Lewis Hawke made particular nuisances of themselves at the breakdown.

In the final 10 minutes, thanks to a lack of communication from Cowbridge, Bro Morgannwg were able to cross the line and convert to take the score to 17-7. At the death Ruben Williams was able to trudge over for a final try (successfully converted) to make the final score 24-7 to Cowbridge.

The front and second rows gave excellent performances, winning their own ball and turning over Bro possession several times. The back line in times of defence was well marshalled by Evan Thomas and Mike Bosley and showed no real signs of cracking throughout the game.

An excellent start to the season Year 8, well done!



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# Penybont outclass Llantwit reserves

WITH the first team fixture postponed, due to a burst-pipe at Cwmaman Institute, it was the Llantwit Major AFC reserves who drew a fairly large crowd to the Windmill on Saturday for a Welsh League Reserves fixture against Penybont.

A very young and talented team, Penybont are going well this season and playing some of their Division 1 first teamers.

The Major played well in the first third of the game, with McCarthy and Shaw going close and both having cleared off the line at one end, whilst the back four held their own until a silly penalty was given away needlessly.

The penalty was well saved by Luke Vincent, but he was injured in the follow-up play and shortly afterwards conceded a goal and needed to be replaced, with Chris Rees deputising.

Penybont scored another just before half-time with a neatly-taken free kick, which curved the wall and went in at the far post.

The second half was very much led by the visitors, who played some really good football and doubled their score to win 4-0.

**SQUAD:** Vincent, Provis, Thomas, Allen, Bevan, Harman, Rees, Phillips, McCarthy, Shaw, Gingell, Lansdown, Cutter, Hodkins and Sawyer.

The club wish to thank their sponsors the Blacksmith's Arms, Watts and Morgan, MPI

Aviation, Eurgent Express and The GEM for their continued support.

**On Saturday (October 26), Llantwit Major AFC welcome Barry Town to their Windmill Lane in what is an historical event for both teams.**

The Major in their 50th anniversary season play Barry Town in their centennial season for their first competitive

league fixture. The Major are expecting a record attendance for the game against the unbeaten league title contenders, Barry Town, who generally bring close to 100 fans to their away fixtures.

Please come along; the Major welcome all fans/spectators to give your support on this historic footballing occasion for the Town - kick off 2.30pm. **PL**

## Sully bowls team make a good start

ON Saturday, October 19, Sully travelled to Bridgend Indoor Bowling Green to play Ogwr in the opening game of the six-rink club national team championship.

The team were confident that they could begin well and this proved correct, coming away with a 23 shot victory, 118-95, collecting 20 out of 22 points.

There were some excellent performances especially the rink skipped by Dave Wright, ably supported by D Snelling, Joe Coles and Steve McKernan, who were 10-2 behind after seven ends against a rink skipped by Welsh international Steve Hill; they fought back to lead 13-2 by the 13th end, going on to win 23-17.

The rink skipped by Fred Phillips had a hard fought game against Ogwr skip Brian Tucker with score after 15

ends tied 14-4 but some brilliant bowls from lead Mike Davies and second Jeff Coles ensured success by 23-7.

Other rinks skipped by Ken McLeod, Brian Griffiths and Martin Clarke appeared to be in control from the outset withstanding any attempted comeback from the Ogwr rinks with ease.

The only losing rink was skipped by Brian Foscolo and although bowling well they unfortunately were up against an inspired Ogwr rink, with skip Peter Luff and third H Jones bowling some outstanding woods to turn a number of ends over when Sully were holding a few of shots.

This win away from home has given Sully a perfect start and with a home game next against Taff Ely this Saturday there is a great opportunity for continued success.

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# Penarth first eleven hockey team unbeaten

**PENARTH Hockey Club's 1st XI maintained its unbeaten run in De Cymru & The Marches Division One of the Davis Wood Hockey League, returning to pole position in its section, with a fourth win in as many games, but the 2nd XI continued to ride a results rollercoaster in De Cymru 2.**

Coming into the weekend, Penarth were one of only two teams to have won all three of their opening fixtures and, with Cardiff & Met 'B' suffering a 2-1 defeat earlier in the day, needed to remain unbeaten to go clear at the top of the table.

However, the Bears knew that they would have a challenge on their hands, having only managed a 1-1 draw against their opponents in a pre-season friendly.

Despite that, Penarth started well and could have been ahead within the first minute when Chris Baker flashed the ball across the goal, only for Sam Wooding to see his touch on strike the post and go wide.

Baker soon made Penarth's dominance pay, however, firing the Vale of Glamorgan's only senior club into the lead with a drag flick to the top right-hand corner. The vice-captain then grabbed a second minutes later, beating several players before slotting home with a reverse stick to the keeper's bottom left.

Looking for more goals before half-time, the visitors pushed forward, but this left them exposed at the back, and Cardiff & Met pulled one back before the interval with a well-worked short corner routine.

The second half was a more edgy affair, with both teams struggling to keep possession. Penarth's lead always looked precarious, and Cardiff had several chances to equalise, but it was the visitors who

eventually struck first, with Baker ghosting through the defence before squaring the ball to Tom Harran, who calmly slotted passed the defender on the line.

Unfortunately, the Vale side then proved the theory that you are most vulnerable immediately after scoring, and promptly conceded minutes later when a defensive error by Sam Doherty gifted the ball to the Cardiff centre-forward.

The home side again had chances to equalise, but it was Penarth who finally grabbed the decisive goal. Baker had had the Cardiff centre backs in his pocket all day and was allowed to dribble unchallenged from within in his own half before slotting the ball through the goalkeeper's legs, making it 4-2 and collecting a personal hat-trick into the process.

The victory confirmed Penarth in sole possession of top spot in their division, with a three-point advantage over a trio of sides sharing second place. **Despite being buoyed by week three's hard-fought victory in Neath, it was business as usual for the 2nd XI as they faced early De Cymru 2 pacemasters Gwent at Barry Sports Centre.**

Unfortunately for the hosts, a combination of injuries and unavailability meant a number of changes to the line-up, and influential players such as Richard Bromiley, Zbig Sobierski and skipper Nick Pratt all having to play despite carrying injuries.

Despite that, however, the home side gave a good account of themselves in the early going, with the veteran trio of Rob Harrison, Richard 'Click' Clarkson and Freddy Thomas all featuring as the control of midfield ebbed and flowed. The deadlock was eventually broken when Gwent snatched the lead midway through the opening half, but Penarth refused to be bowed, and some incisive 'scissor' play - rem-

iniscent of that which proved so deadly at Neath - was finished off by James Kidby's first goal of the season.

The to-and-fro nature of the game continued as Gwent restored their lead but, once more, Penarth refused to lie down and, following another incisive passing move, Clarkson coolly lifted ball over the advancing 'keeper to level scores.

Turning around at 2-2, skipper Pratt emphasised the importance of not conceding an early goal but, as had happened in their last home game, Penarth did just that, allowing Gwent to claim a third lead of the game.

Despite a tiring Penarth midfield still chasing gamely, the visitors were gradually dominating the vital part of the pitch, forcing man-of-the-match Calum Grant to make a series of excellent saves to keep the home side in the game.

Penarth were not entirely without chances of their own, however, and, as the incisive hockey continued, Graeme 'Bomber' Jones was unfortunate not to get on the end of a move at top of the 'D' before Gwent were able to clear their lines.

With time running out and the home side desperately pushing forward to get the draw they felt they deserved, the weaknesses in the line-up eventually took their toll, with Gwent delivering a breakaway sucker punch late on to make the game safe at 4-2.

Despite the result dropping Penarth back to fifth in the division, Pratt was pleased that his ailing line-up had been able to compete for long periods with a side sure to feature in the end-of-season promotion shake up.

This weekend, the 1st XI faces their toughest challenge of the season so far, hosting a second-placed Lydney side that have scored 19 goals in their last three games. The 2nds, meanwhile, have no fixture, hopefully allowing time for their various injuries to heal before returning to action in early November.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on the artificial turf at Barry Sports Centre every Wednesday, with the Juniors in action between 6-7pm and Senior between 7-8pm.

Contact club secretary Dave Stevens at d.stevens81@hotmail.co.uk

# CITROEN C1 MAKES RIGHT CONNEXION

**MOTORING with TIM SAUNDERS**

**"NOW, this is a snazzy little car," says my wife Caroline, as we sit in the Citroen C1 Connexion.**

I can see why she instantly warms to it because it is a very girly car, with its lipstick red wing mirrors and door handles and its striking black finish. No sooner have I started driving it than another model, exactly the same, passes me with a young lady driving it.

It is a very compact city car and surprisingly there is a good amount of legroom in the front and back, which puts competitors like the Fiat 500 to shame.

Despite its blatantly female characteristics (as you can see in the video at [testdrives.biz](http://testdrives.biz)) if the hard-nosed male motorist sticks with it, it provides a good driving experience.

Yes, you'll have to ignore the sympathetic stares from macho motorists in their Range Rovers and Mercedes and the 'sweetie' from the effeminate assistant at the garage forecourt.

"It's my wife's car," I mumble. Get over that this Peugeot 107 by any other name (it uses the same floorpan and bodysheet) has a five speed manual gearbox

and a 998cc petrol engine. You would be forgiven for thinking that this makes for a pretty dull car but because it is so light, just 805kg, it is possible to reach 60mph from standstill in a shade over 12 seconds and onto a top speed of 98mph. Very reasonable figures.

Obviously when there are four adults inside, these results are hampered somewhat as they are when strong winds pick up, as they do in the test.

Then there is the 65mpg (combined) figure, which is better than some diesels.

It is possible to squeeze a pushchair into the tiny boot, or a week's worth of shopping, but not both at the same time.

The only criticism I have, which I admit is partly my fault, is that if your hands slip from the ten-to-two position on the steering wheel it is all too easy to sound the horn, which occurred on a number of occasions, frightening the motorist in front and embarrassing me.

While this five-door hatchback is finished to a good standard there is no denying that this is a bit of a tin can. I shut the rear door a little too enthusiastically and I fear that if I do it any harder it might change shape.

The seats are comfy, although the driver's seat



THE CITROEN C1 CONNEXION.

could do with a little more padding in the lumbar region. Parking is a cinch due to its size.

The rear windows are fitted with rear privacy glass and rather than winding up or down, the rear passenger windows pop out for opening.

I like the simple minimalist dashboard and the fact that at night, when the lights are on, the section housing the fan controls lights up. The air conditioning, in common with the Vauxhall Corsa tested last week, does struggle in high temperatures.

But there's more to this dashboard than at first meets the eye because there are four simple buttons arranged in the shape of a coin on the dash to the left of the steering wheel. These are actually part of what the industry calls black box technology.

One button will call a

call centre and you can tell them where you want to go and then spoken directions will be provided throughout the course of your journey.

Another switch patches you through to Citroen Assist breakdown service. It's also possible to make a 999 call through this system, as well as connecting you directly to your Citroen insurance.

This black box will also record erratic driving behaviour and feed it back to the insurance

company as a way of keeping insurance premiums lower for well-behaved young drivers.

Caroline says that this is the car she would buy if ever she chose to replace her P-registered Fiat Punto. Praise indeed.

**Facts at a glance:**  
New price range: £8,095 - £10,845.  
0-60mph: 12.2secs.  
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Watch the video at [www.testdrives.biz](http://www.testdrives.biz)

## Champion says martial art can help children's confidence...

**WORLD Tae Kwon Do champion Joseph Schembri, who teaches 200 students in the Vale, says the sport can help children who suffer with behavioural problems and bullying.**

The Welsh team captain has just been awarded his fourth individual world title and now hopes to encourage more youngsters to take up the challenging martial art.

Along with Mr Brian Taylor, Joseph has launched Ninja Kids, a pre-school Tae Kwon Do class for kids aged three to six, with classes in Rhosce, Llantwit, Dinas Powys and Sully.

He said: "The classes

are run in a controlled, fun and disciplined environment, promoting respect and good behaviour. Tae Kwon Do can also give youngsters confidence if they have been bullied at school."

The 38-year-old from Barry has been training since he was nine years old, and now hopes to set up a permanent centre dedicated to Tae Kwon Do in the Vale.

Kath Burningham, a teacher at Eagleswell Primary, said: "Kids who are in trouble and faced with overwhelming odds can learn respect and courtesy while also improving their confidence."

For more information, contact Mr Schembri at [jstkd.co.uk](mailto:jstkd.co.uk) or 07711 234500.

## Penarth golfers aim for Portugal play-off spot

**TWO Penarth golfers are just one step away from a dream six-night, four-star, expenses-paid trip to the Algarve, where they could compete for a prestigious national amateur title.**

Stephen Clancy and Ivan Toms, from The Glamorganshire Golf Club, compete in the regional final of the HowDidiDo National Matchplay Championship at the Macdonald Botley Park Hotel Golf and Spa, Southampton, on Tuesday October 22, aiming to qualify for the grand final in the Algarve at the four-star Monte da Quinta Club, on the Quinta do Lago estate.

Four competitions culminate at the grand final, sponsored this year by both Monte da Quinta Club and Quinta do Lago: singles, pairs, mixed pairs and senior pairs, with a total of 32 golfers, from across the UK, fighting it out for the titles. Each pair will have played up to four qualifying rounds merely to reach the regional final, with the knockout

rounds taking place between June and September, and the regional finals in October. HowDidiDo's database now holds in excess of 21 million rounds of golf along

with the handicaps, results and scores of more than 1,300,000 UK golf club members. It is now arguably the largest and most up-to-date database of golfers in Europe.

## Beavers hold a triathlon

**BARRY Beavers disabled swimming club held a successful fundraising triathlon on Sunday, September 29.**

Ten competitors battled against each other to be awarded the first place trophy. Stephanie Evans was first out of the pool having completed 40 lengths in record time but was soon overtaken on her bike by Chris Economides, who led the rest of the way and came in a triumphant first place.

The youngest competitor Patrick Jones came in second followed by Linda Ruston in third place. The other competitors Stephanie Evans, Cath Jones, Diane

Hitcock and Rob Lynch all came home triumphant, and Gareth Hopkins and Adam Keenor sprinted to the finish line with great competitiveness.

Sadly, Peter Davies lost a pedal on his bike and was unable to finish the race - better luck next year. Coun Howard Hamilton presented the trophies and medals. Barry Beavers are very grateful to Coun Hamilton for all his support and also to St John Ambulance and the Air Training Corps for giving their time to help at the event.

A big thank you to all the marshals, helpers and supporters for making it a successful event.

SD

## Ladies' football fun day in Vale

**THE Vale ladies and girls football club is running a football fun day for girls aged seven-14 on Tuesday, October 29, at Porthkerry Park, Barry 10am-3pm.**

The day will include lots of skills, fun games and competitions with prizes on offer and coaching will be supplied by fully qualified club coaches with completed CRB Checks.

Players will need to bring suitable clothing for outdoor training and a packed lunch with supply of drinks.

To book please contact Luke Williams on 07832 273688 or email: [valegirlsfc@gmail.com](mailto:valegirlsfc@gmail.com). LW

## Youngsters can learn from 'Big Nev'

**WALES and Everton legend Neville Southall has started a goalkeeping centre alongside the PG10 Development Centre based at Bryn Hafren School in Barry.**

Southall, who has also coached Wales under-16s through to under-19s and the main international team, will be able to pass on his vast experience and knowledge to inspiring goalkeepers every Monday from 5pm-6pm for children and young people aged eight-16 years old.

To enrol in the goalkeeping and development centre please email [info@pg10coaching.co.uk](mailto:info@pg10coaching.co.uk) or phone 07955270870. PG





# GEM sport

## Barry RFC slip up in monsoon!

**BARRY RFC travelled to the western limits of Division 4 (SE) last Saturday to play Nantymoel.**

The rain was so heavy and persistent en route that it must have cast doubts on whether the fixture would be played; however, by kick off, the downpour had ceased.

The home side were first on the attack, benefitting from a fairly stiff breeze at their backs. They earned a first chance to open the scoring but a penalty shot sailed wide of the upright. Despite the efforts of Luke O'Sullivan and McTavish the Ogmore Vale side put the visitors' defence under pressure.

After 15 minutes Nantymoel succeeded with a penalty kick, giving them a lead they would not relinquish. The Barry half backs were setting up the three-quarters but the latter were not finding penetrating runs easy to engineer.

Barry now showed some naivety in understanding that particular referees have individual foibles. This official elected not to recognise that when scrummages are turned through 90 degrees, possession is reversed.

Such circumstances led directly to the first Nantymoel try, as the ball should rightly have gone the other way. Throughout the remainder of the match Barry suffered in this area, and a pushover try completed the home scoring in the first session.

The second half saw the visitors come into the game. Decent pressure and territory saw the Nantymoel scrum-half needing to perform some not-so-dainty footwork, which earned him a yellow card.

The game seemed to reach the 'meandering' stage with neither side being able to gain the upper hand. Barry did have positive intent in that they forsook penalty attempts for kicking into the corners. At the ensuing lineouts they were frustrated by a combination of last ditch defence and odd refereeing.

Despite sterling work from Hollister and Deguara, the lack of weigh available from the bench disrupted the Barry pack's efforts. The midfield was a contest between an improving Barry three-quarter line and a muscular Nantymoel pack.

The visitors got onto the scoreboard via a Ryan penalty but eventually succumbed to the weightier home forwards. This unit bulldozed over for a late try producing a 23-3 result, which hardly reflected the game as a whole.

**Barry:** Ryan (c), Dix, Provis, Buckland, Busuttil, Richie O'Sullivan, Gallivan, Luke O'Sullivan, Poole, Giddings, McTavish, Deaura, Hollister, Evans, Pirso. **Substitutes:** Vidal, Thomas, Oaten, White.

This Saturday, Barry entertain Dinas Powys at The Reservoir Field in the WRU Bowl competition, kick-off scheduled for 2.30pm.

CO

## Conies are praised at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club



**ABOVE: Dan Williams (left), winner of the Merit Table Trophy, with runner-up Tim Hanson and lady captain Sheila Morrow**

**THE presentation of prizes for the Conies section of Wenvoe Castle Golf Club took place on Tuesday, October 15, and brought to a conclusion one of the most successful seasons ever in the history of this very popular section of the club.**

Conies captain Ken Howells was naturally delighted with the support shown throughout the summer, and in particular the consistently high level of entries.

The excellent weather had played its part and greens staff were praised for the quality of the course, particularly the greens which had made the playing of golf all the more enjoyable.

He also thanked Jason Harris, the club professional, for his support and contribution and also highlighted the excellent service by club steward Simon Gatteridge and club chef David Reis and the various staff.

The origins of the Conies evenings lay in providing organised competitions for players with high handicaps, particularly for new members seeking to play.

Over time the competitions were extended to lower handicap players enabling them to pass on their golfing skills and experience, and importantly join in a great social evening.

Ken Howells highlighted the quality of golfers now taking part including the club champion Pat Regan and county champion Keith Stimpson,

together with a number of first and second team players.

The club president David Sherrard, club captain Barrie Jones and lady captain Sheila Morrow presented the prizes and congratulated the winners and runners-up of the wide variety of competitions held throughout the season.

### CONIES TROPHY WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP FOR 2013:

**H. Regan Cup:** winner R. Campbell, runner-up C. Rees; **D. Bonnell Cup:** winners J. Ivory & D. Williams, runners-up D. Farmer & R. Ivory; **Dr A. M. Jones Cup:** winner D. Williams, runner-up T. Hanson.

**H. Jose Cup:** winner T. Hanson, runner-up D. Williams; **H. Gregory Cup:** winner D. Farmer, runner-up P. Francis; **Captain's Shield:** winner P. Pemberton, runner-up D. Farmer.

**Birdie League:** winner T. Hanson (43), runner-up L. Ivory (28); **Gross Eclectic:** winner T. Hanson (54), runner-up K. Stimpson (55); **Merit Table:** winner D. Williams (59 points), runner-up T. Hanson (52 points).

Club captain Barrie Jones congratulated Ken Howells on his personal contribution to the success of the Conies section and also thanked the club members for their outstanding support in a very regular high turnout.

The club members also wished to show their appreciation of Ken's considerable work and the club captain, on their behalf, was delighted to present him with a gift of a new golf bag.

BJ



**Ken Howells (right), the Conies captain, receiving a golf bag from club captain Barrie Jones on behalf of all the players.**



**Peter Pemberton, winner of the Captain's Shield.**

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## Another week passes for Chess Club

**ANOTHER week goes by and the Barry Chess Club complete another three matches in the East Glamorgan Chess League.**

We are about a quarter of the way through the season and in most of the divisions there is no one team pulling away and looking like champions. Indeed, the top of both division one and division four changed hands again.

At the start of the week the Barry Bosons were at the top of division one. However they did not play this week and were replaced by the Barry Camelots who defeated the Caerphilly Castles by 4-1, winning the top three boards and drawing on the bottom two.

Unfortunately, they have played one round of games more than the other top teams so I expect them to drop into a mid-table spot by the end of the week.

The surprise club this season is Nelson. They have two teams, the Rhinos in division one and the Griffins in division four. The Rhinos are the only team with a 100 per cent record in the top division.

Our Bosons team are the only other unbeaten team in this division having won two matches and drawn two matches; I can only hope that at the end of the season they will not rue the draw they earned against the Camelots.

In division two the Quarks travelled to the West House to play Bridgend A. The Bridgend side outrated us on boards one through to four. On board five, they introduced an unrated fraulein who was relatively quickly dispatched by John Stephenson, who now tops the Barry player performance chart, having earned five wins from his first six games in league chess. On this form he is likely to be playing for the Quarks on a more regular basis.

Wins were also obtained by Chris Green and another in-form player, Ken Hannah. This gave the Quarks their first win of the season but this still leaves them in the relation zone.

Finally, the Gambits travelled again this time to Nelson. The Griffins were in third place before the match began, having one two and drawn one of their three games to date.

The Griffins have a settled side whereas the Gambits vary their team to ensure all of our members are able to take part in league games. In the end we were heavily outrated on the top two boards and marginally outrated on the bottom two boards.

In the middle was John Stephenson, one of our currently unrated players, due to a lack of rated games.

The pick of the results this week was a win for Peter Watkins on board one. He had a clearly drawn position but won on

time when Lyn Holland's flag fell before he had completed the required 30 moves.

Windsor Lewis took part in a tournament in Swansea the day before we travelled to Nelson. In the Congress he played and lost to John Cox. In the Nelson match he was paired with John again and for the second day in succession John took the points. However, a loss by a margin of 3-2 was a respectable result when comparing the relative ratings of the players.

We drop to second in the table with this result, albeit above Nelson, who have a game in hand, but behind the Cardiff Cavaliers, who took four points from their game at home to St John's College.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7:30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night, but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at: [barrychessclub.yolasite.com](http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com).

PJ